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NEWS
WORTH
SHARING.

Facebook feeds set for another update

A fresh design of the network's news feed will likely prompt many status updates about how the old Facebook was so much better **PAGE 10**

STOMPIN' TOM DIES

HE STOMPED HIS WAY TO GLORY WITH SONGS ABOUT CANADIAN LIFE, CHRONICLING EVERYTHING FROM BUD THE SPUD TO THE GOOD OLD HOCKEY GAME. STOMPIN' TOM CONNORS DIED OF NATURAL CAUSES WEDNESDAY. **PAGE 12**



KIPPER'S BACK

Miikka Kiprusoff stops a shot during first-period action against the San Jose Sharks at the Scotiabank Saddledome Wednesday night. The Calgary Flames' top goaltender had been out with a knee sprain for the past month, last playing for the Flames in a 4-1 win over Detroit on Feb. 5. For the game story, please see page 41. JEFF MCINTOSH/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Spending won't match growth, Redford says

Budget. Province hopes to take the first step to getting off its day-to-day dependence on oil-and-gas revenues

Alberta's budget, to be unveiled Thursday, will be so lean, it won't even keep up with provincial growth, Premier Alison Redford said Wednesday.

Redford told reporters her government would need to hike spending by four per cent over last year's budget of \$41 billion just to keep up with population growth plus inflation.

"The severe downturn in resource revenues has made even that (four per cent

level of growth unsustainable," said Redford.

"In tomorrow's budget our spending will be far below — far below — estimated population growth and inflation.

"With the province growing as quickly as Alberta, that does mean a significant measure of restraint, and it means that we do have to make some very difficult choices."

Redford has said the budget will be a watershed document that will lay out long-term plans for spending and saving, and take the first step to getting the province off its day-to-day dependence on oil and gas revenues.

Her government, which has prided itself on being debt-free, has begun borrowing to pay for big-ticket infrastructure projects like

twinning the highway to the oilsands hub of Fort McMurray.

Redford and Finance Minister Doug Horner have also recently hedged on promises to balance the books on the day-to-day operating side.

The premier has said all will become clear when Horner unveils the budget Thursday afternoon.

Wildrose Leader Danielle Smith has criticized Redford for record spending when times were good, but said she is cautiously optimistic that the new mantra of lean spending represents a foundational shift.

"I'm not quite sure that I believe the premier on that, but we'll see because we've been calling for this for years," said Smith.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



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Spat. City, CHBA come together – on paper, at least

They've patched things up on paper, but neither the mayor nor the local president of the Canadian Home Builders' Association (CHBA) is backing down from previous public comments.

Mayor Naheed Nenshi and Charron Ungar of the CHBA Calgary branch released a joint written statement Wednesday which reads, in part, "Both parties acknowledge that The City of Calgary ... is not imposing a suburban development freeze."

Nenshi had taken exception to a claim at a dinner event in January that the city had imposed a suburban "development freeze" and informed the CHBA it could no longer participate in city advisory committees.

With the joint statement, approved by both city council and the CHBA's local board of directors, the association was welcomed back into the fold.

Still, Ungar maintained Wednesday his comments from January were taken out of context and are still valid.

"I stand by behind everything I said in the speech," he told Metro. "That has not changed."

Nenshi, meanwhile, continued to describe the same comments as "not true."

"We've got a statement of fact that clearly shows the statements that they made in January were wrong," he said.

ROBSON FLETCHER/METRO



Mayor Naheed Nenshi speaks to reporters outside his office at city hall on Wednesday afternoon. ROBSON FLETCHER/METRO

Mayor shoots down Deerfoot 'rumour'

Alberta roadway.
Province took over responsibility for maintenance and upgrades of Deerfoot Trail in 2000

 ROBSON FLETCHER
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Talk of returning Deerfoot Trail to city control swirled Wednesday after the mayor mentioned a rumour it might be in Thursday's provincial budget, but

the transportation minister said no major decisions will be made for some time.

"I can't tell you what's in the budget, but I can tell you we won't even be looking at that for a few months at least," Minister Ric McIver told Metro.

Mayor Naheed Nenshi raised the issue, unprompted, during a press conference Wednesday afternoon, asking reporters if they planned to ask him about a rumour that the return of Deerfoot would be part of the budget announcement.

The mayor then threw cold water on the idea.

"It would be very, very surprising to me if the province — without any discussion or consultation with the city — were to transfer an asset like Deerfoot Trail back to the city," he said. "That comes with annual maintenance bills which are approximately equivalent to a one-per-cent increase in property taxes forever."

Ald. Shane Keating said it makes sense for the city to retake control of Deerfoot, since Calgarians make up the vast majority of the users of the road."

But, he added, there first needs to be a plan on how to fund major capital improve-

ments at bottleneck points as well as regular road maintenance.

Keating said those issues should be part-and-parcel of city-charter discussions with the province.

McIver said returning Deerfoot to Calgary is "something we want to do at some point" but there are no firm details yet.

"I might begin looking at that and considering when and where and how to do that in the next few months," McIver said.

But, he quickly added, "Looking at and doing are completely different things."



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NEWS

Teacher job action wouldn't come until at least fall: Association head

On Wednesday, the eve of Alberta's provincial budget release, teacher representatives again attempted to downplay suggestions of possible job action.

Carol Henderson, president of the Alberta Teachers' Association, said the earliest she could see such measures on the table would be this fall during the 2013-14 school year.

"I just talked to the co-ordinator of teacher welfare

and we're in early stages," she said. "The minister is the only one talking about strikes — we're certainly not."

Henderson's comments come on the heels of a tense few weeks between her organization and Education Minister Jeff Johnson.

The ATA shot down a contract offer last week that would have seen salaries frozen for three years but come with a cash incentive as well as a two-percent hike in the fourth year.

The ATA sent a flow chart to media Wednesday indicating ongoing local bargaining is only at the "bargaining agent" stage and would need to pass through another eight steps before a strike vote would be considered.

But Kim Capstick, the minister's press secretary, said the threat of labour action still looms.



Education Minister Jeff Johnson
METRO FILE

"We have been in negotiations for two and half years to try and resolve this, that is the concern," Capstick said.

"We can't seem to get to a place where we get a deal in the best interests of kids."

JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO,

WITH FILES FROM RYAN TUMILTY

Quoted

"I don't know why the minister has taken this so personally, that we rejected the offer.... Now he's talking a lot about labour action and settlements."

Carol Henderson, Alberta Teachers' Association president

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Katie McBeath and her kids, Logan, Ellen and Emery, were out in the community on Wednesday rallying support for their Lakeview-area school and stopped by Sofia Straub's house. CANDICE WARD/FOR METRO

Working overtime to make voice heard in school struggle

Over-capacity. Popular Spanish program pushing Westgate School over the brink

JEREMY NOLAIS
jeremy.nolaismetronews.ca

Worried parents in a southwest neighbourhood say they were informed too late of a process that could see their kids school flooded with students from a nearby school that's bursting at the seams.

Parents of kids at Jennie Elliott school have been going door-to-door, speaking out at school board meetings and collecting signatures online in hopes of delaying a decision to accommodate students from a

fast-growing Spanish program at Westgate School, located 15 minutes away.

The Calgary Board of Education (CBE) launched a consultation process concerning Westgate School before Christmas amid projections it would far exceed its 725-student capacity for the 2013 fall semester.

That was thanks, in large part, to a flourishing Spanish bilingual program that already holds 337 kids and is expected to add another 100 over the next five years.

Scenarios were produced and published online; however, parents with kids attending Jennie Elliott say they were only informed last month that their school could figure prominently in two of three remaining proposals.

"The way I see it is my Visa

bills come at a slower rate than this decision that's going to rock the boat significantly," said parent Katie McBeath, who has one child attending Jennie Elliott and two more to follow.

McBeath launched an online petition that had received 200 signatures Wednesday evening and has begun going door-to-door in the community to rally support for delaying a final decision on the scenarios that CBE officials hope to make before spring break.

But Donna Crawford, the CBE's acting director of planning and transportation, said the first priority during public consultations is always given to families that will be most impacted — in this case, the students at Westgate will be forced to switch schools.

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Ruth Steele, co-ordinator of The Hub, wants Calgarians to log on and stay informed. JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO

Police mobile hub sends out crime info

High-tech policing.

Text, email alerts aimed at reaching new users, improving citizen interaction



JEREMY NOLAIS

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Calgary crime alerts have gone mobile.

City police on Wednesday launched a third-generation system, known as The Hub, that will provide registrants with text and email alerts as well as traditional voicemail updates if they choose.

Voice-mail updates have been around for two decades,

Busy Hub

- Calgary police say 64,000 households and 6,500 businesses signed on for their previous voicemail crime-alert system.
- The Hub will link with social-media platforms already in use by police, including Twitter and Facebook.

but spokesperson Kevin Brookwell said the system revamp comes from the realization that fewer people are using landlines. He added that real-time emergency alerts may not be far off.

"If we had a situation where

we needed to get out information to people, this would be a great tool to do that," he said. "It's something we're looking at... It really is changing how we look at communicating with Calgarians."

Registrants can customize the types of alerts they wish to receive — everything from community sports tournaments to missing- and wanted-person alerts — and which communities they wish to receive them for, said Ruth Steele, co-ordinator of The Hub.

All users of the previous voicemail Police and Community Awareness Program must re-register with The Hub. They can do so at calgarypolice.ca, over the phone at 403-428-8146 or, in two weeks, at all district offices.

Had been rebuffed

Tax watchdog can attend budget lockup

The Canadian Taxpayers Federation says Premier Alison Redford has overruled a decision to keep the advocacy group out of Thursday's budget lockup.

The CTF says Redford called to say its members will be allowed into the room where the budget is explained to reporters, politicians and stakeholders before it is released. It says it had been told the lockup was full. The group says it has been attending budget lockups for 20 years. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Annual Teddys. Cusanelli earns Alberta another 'award' for wasteful spending

For the second year running, Alberta has been awarded the provincial Teddy award, a dubious distinction handed out by the Canadian Taxpayers Federation.

This year, it goes to former Tourism Minister Christine Cusanelli, who billed taxpayers when she took her mother and daughter to the London Olympics. She later paid the money back.

The Teddy awards spotlight waste in government at every level, said Gregory Thomas, national director of the CTF.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Christine Cusanelli METRO FILE

Three-quarters of Albertans favour right to die



University of Alberta researcher Donna Wilson's work was published this month and shows that many Albertans believe people should have a right to die. RYAN TUMILTY/METRO

Quoted

"We have this very large baby boom generation that has always set trends, and so this is why I don't think our discussion over euthanasia or assisted suicide will ever go away." Researcher Donna Wilson

'Last Chance Cat Ranch'

Many felines feared dead in fire

A feline refuge in southern Alberta dubbed the "Last Chance Cat Ranch" has been destroyed by fire.

One person was sent to hospital when a home that housed the animals in south Lethbridge erupted in flames late Monday afternoon.

The fire threatened the lives of more than 30 cats, and it's still not known how many may have died.

Officials say the occupant of the home managed to rescue many of the cats, which are now being cared for by Lethbridge Animal Services.

Some neighbouring homes also suffered heat damage. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

U of A study. Many in Alberta support assisted suicide

RYAN TUMILTY

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More than three-quarters of Albertans favour legal changes that would allow for assisted suicide in the province, according to a new University of Alberta study.

The study, published in the March issue of the Health and Social Care in the Community journal, found 77.4 per cent of Albertans favoured a right for dying adults to end their lives early.

Donna Wilson with the school's nursing program said she did the research because she wanted to clear the air around the controversial issue.

"There are a lot of myths out there," she said. "There is a lot of guesswork out there and this points out that 77 per cent of adult Albertans, in a very good representative sample, in a good study, are in favour of assisted suicide."

Wilson said her survey is not a definitive answer to such a complex social question, but she hopes it continues an important discussion.

Stash. Wooden gorilla used to smuggle heroin

Calgary border officials may have been inclined to pound their chests a little after discovering a heroin stash stuffed inside a wooden gorilla statue last week.

The wooden carving was headed from Uganda to Saskatoon but was intercepted by Calgary commercial operations officers, said Canada Border Services Agency spokesperson Lisa White.

"These guys are experts — they know what to look for, what the trends are," White said.

The statue had been hollowed out to fit 65 grams of heroin inside. The seizure is the largest for the CBSA so far this year.

In total in 2013, officers have seized 55 kilograms of



Canada Border Services Agency officers found heroin stashed inside a wooden gorilla after examining a shipment that passed through Calgary last week.
CANADA BORDER SERVICES AGENCY

khat, 70 grams of opium, 1,400 doses of steroids and 10 litres of the precursor chemical safrole, which is commonly used to produce MDMA. **JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO**

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'The fight goes on! Chavez lives!'

Venezuela. Tens of thousands line the streets of Caracas, mourning the death of their influential socialist leader

A flag-draped coffin carrying the body of the late Venezuelan president Hugo Chavez floated over a sea of supporters on Wednesday on its way to a military academy where it will lie in state. Away from the procession route, jittery Venezuelans facing an uncertain future without their larger-than-life leader flocked to supermarkets and gas stations to stock up on supplies, preparing for the worst a day after Chavez succumbed to cancer.

Tens of thousands lined the streets or walked with the casket in the capital, many weeping as the body approached, led by a grim drum major. Other mourners pumped their fists and held aloft images of the late president, amid count-



A supporter of Venezuela's late president Hugo Chavez holds a picture of him above a crowd waiting for Chavez's coffin to be taken from the hospital, where he died on Tuesday, to a military academy where it will remain until his funeral in Caracas.

RICARDO MAZALAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

less waving yellow, blue and red Venezuelan flags.

"The fight goes on! Chavez lives!" the mourners shouted in unison, many through eyes red from crying late into the night.

Chavez's bereaved mother, Elena Frias de Chavez, leaned against her son's casket, while a priest read a prayer before the procession left the military

hospital where Chavez died at the age of 58. Vice-President Nicolas Maduro, Chavez's anointed successor, walked with the crowd, along with Cabinet members and uniformed soldiers.

"I feel so much pain. So much pain," said Yamile Gil, a 38-year-old housewife. "We never wanted to see our president like this. We will al-

ways love him."

The former paratrooper will remain at the military academy until his Friday funeral, which promises to draw leaders from all over the world. Already, the presidents of Argentina, Uruguay and Bolivia have arrived to mourn a man whose death leaves an enormous void in the region's anti-American left.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Chavez's legacy

World leaders react

Some cried, some cheered. Many Latin Americans mourned the death of Venezuelan president Hugo Chavez, leaders in Europe and Asia sent condolences and Iran's president predicted great works in the afterlife.

U.S. President Barack Obama, meanwhile, focused on "a new chapter" for Venezuela, following 14 years in which Chavez cast himself as a bulwark against U.S. domination.

Chavez was seen as a hero by some for his socialist programs, his anti-U.S. rhetoric and gifts of cut-rate oil. Others considered him a bully who represed his opponents.

A teary-eyed Bolivian President Evo Morales, one of Chavez's closest allies and most loyal disciples, de-



Supporters of Venezuela's late president Hugo Chavez embrace as the coffin containing his body passes in the street.

RODRIGO ABD/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

clared that "Chavez is more alive than ever." Officials in Cuba, Iran and Russia had effusive praise for the late leader.

President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad of Iran announced a day of mourning and compared Chavez to a saint, saying he will "return on resurrection day."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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Facebook redesign appeals to advertisers



Facebook will be offering content-specific feeds and larger ads. GETTY IMAGES FILE

Still your friend? News feed will also include content-specific options

Facebook is expected to unveil a fresh design of its news feed on Thursday, with changes said to include multiple content-specific feeds and larger advertisements.

The news feed has not significantly changed since 2006, and the long-awaited update is expected to make the social-networking site more attractive to advertisers.

"It's a direct shot across the bow at Google," said IDC analyst Kevin Restivo. "Those two companies are mortal enemies and this just brings them into greater competition against each other. The battleground is

the advertising field."

At a news conference, Facebook promised to introduce a "new look for news feed."

In its current form, the news feed is a chronological stream of updates from friends, celebrities and companies that users follow, with few options to organize the content.

Facebook has been tight-lipped about its plans, but technology news site TechCrunch

reported the company will offer new ways to filter your news feed, allowing users to switch between different categories.

For example, one could click on a photos feed to see friends' Facebook and Instagram snapshots, or a redesigned music feed to see what they're listening to. A media feed, with the latest updates from news websites, could also be an option.

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Red Chamber. Senator facing heat for expense claims, relationship



Media reports say Sen. Pierre-Hugues Boisvenu is in a romantic relationship with his aide, Isabelle Lapointe. FACEBOOK

A Quebec senator is in the spotlight over reports he is in a romantic relationship with an employee on Parliament Hill.

Conservative Sen. Pierre-Hugues Boisvenu, 64, is the latest member of the Red Chamber to come under scrutiny as part of the ongoing controversy surrounding expense claims.

Montreal-based newspaper La Presse reported this weekend that Boisvenu claimed more than \$20,000 in living expenses for his time spent in the Ottawa area, while claiming his primary residence is in Sherbrooke, Que.

Meanwhile, the newspaper reported Boisvenu is involved romantically with his aide, Isabelle Lapointe, a former criminal analyst whom he hired to

be his executive assistant, also in charge of communications.

The relationship appears to go against rules governing the hiring of employees at the Senate of Canada, as far as they were explained to other media, but communications staff refused to state those rules when asked about them on Tuesday.

Neither Lapointe nor Boisvenu responded to interview requests on Tuesday.

Boisvenu told La Presse his personal life has nothing to do with anyone but him.

Boisvenu also explained the allowance by saying that it is his legal permanent address until his divorce is finalized.

A Senate standing committee appeared to conclude his expense claims were legitimate.

Quebec

Morgue worker fired for collecting pics of deceased

Quebec's coroner's office has confirmed the firing of an employee in the wake of a news report that a morgue worker collected pictures of dead women and children.

The chief coroner said Wednesday that the em-

ployee was dismissed last year, months after officials received a tip from a colleague and investigated.

Chief coroner Louise Nolet would not comment on a news report that the employee created a library of photos, gathered since 1995, and would look at them when his colleagues left the room. Quebec's TVA network said the employee worked at the Quebec City morgue.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



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True icon. Stompin' Tom leaves final message to fans just before his death

Canadian country-folk legend Stompin' Tom Connors, whose toe-tapping musical spirit and fierce patriotism established him as one of Canada's strongest cultural icons, has died. He was 77.

Connors passed away Wednesday from what a spokesperson described as "natural causes."

Brian Edwards said the musician, rarely seen without his signature black cowboy hat and stomping cowboy boots, knew his health was declining and had penned a message for his fans a few days before his death.

In the message posted on

his website, Connors says Canada kept him "inspired with its beauty, character, and spirit, driving me to keep marching on and devoted to sing about its people and places that make Canada the greatest country in the world."

Connors is survived by his wife Lena, two sons, two daughters and several grandchildren.

Dubbed Stompin' Tom for his propensity to pound the floor with his foot during performances, Connors garnered a devoted following with his country-folk tunes.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Stompin' Tom Connors died Wednesday. DARREN CALABRESE/THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

Teacher charged

Packed van was speeding: Police

A Toronto teacher is facing charges after allegedly speeding down Highway 401 in a van with 12 students inside.

The van was pulled over near Merlin Town Line, police say.

Police say the van was travelling 146 km/h in a 100 km/h zone.

The driver, a 44-year-old teacher from Father Henry Carr Secondary School, was not licensed to be operating the van, police allege.

Paul Melnik has been charged with driving with an improper licence and speeding.

LUKE SIMONE/METRO ONLINE

Why? 'Nice' couple's killing baffles police

'Senseless' deaths in Florida. Multiple suspects hunted in murder of Canadians enjoying their retirement together

More grim details emerged Wednesday about the "senseless" homicide of a "nice" Canadian couple in Florida that has left police mystified.

Rochelle Wise, 66, and David Pichosky, 71, were killed by asphyxiation in their winter home in Hallandale Beach, police say.

But why?

They had no enemies and likely didn't know their killers, police say.

Investigators believe they are looking for multiple suspects, but haven't been able to figure out any motive.

"As the details come out I believe the public will be shocked just to know how senseless this murder was," said police Chief Dwayne Flournoy.

"It angers me that someone came into this home and killed these two people who, (from) what we've been able to identify, they have no enemies.

"They were nice people. They were enjoying their retirement. They were enjoying their new marriage."

Family and friends are appealing for people to come forward with information.

Crime Stoppers USA is offering a \$51,000 reward — most of it coming from an anonymous donor.



Murder victims: Rochelle Wise and David Pichosky had no enemies, Florida police say. COURTESY SUN SENTINEL

Two lives snuffed out

Rochelle Wise and David Pichosky were married only about four years ago, reports say. Details about their life have emerged from family, friends and police.

- **Their togetherness.** They were always together, going to shows, going out to

eat, going to the temple and taking their family to the ice cream parlour when they visited Florida.

- **Their enduring love.** They were doting grandparents to their blended family and loved their life together.

some of the benefits of hard work.

"She'll be missed on a level you can't imagine by people she knew, by her family, by her friends, by her community. It's unimaginable."

Pearl Gladman, a friend of the couple, pleaded for anyone with information to call police.

"I miss her terribly. When the phone rings and it's a long-distance ring I still think it's her calling me from Florida just to chat," Gladman said.

"Whatever anybody knows, just think if it was your family or if it was someone that you loved."

"Just help us get an end to this." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Police have received fewer than 100 tips and though the force is dedicating all the resources it can to the case, they still need more information, said Flournoy — who appealed directly to people who may be involved but are "less

culpable." "We just need that one break or that one piece to the puzzle so that we can fill it all in," Flournoy said.

Wise's son Jamie said she had "worked hard her whole life and finally found love and was just starting to taste

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F-35s. Jet's blind spot could cause pilot deaths, Pentagon report shows

The F-35 jet, eyed as Canada's fighter of the future, may have a fatal flaw — a blind spot that prevents pilots from "checking their six" or easily watching for an enemy behind them, a new report says.

Experienced fighter pilots who have flown the high-tech aircraft say the design shortfall could cost future F-35 pilots their lives.

"Aft visibility will get the pilot gunned every time," wrote one American pilot, who flew the fighter last fall at Florida's Eglin Air Force Base.

"The head rest is too large and will impede aft visibility

Canadian pilot

Despite the report's concerns, one Canadian remains bullish on the jet's abilities. Billy Flynn, a former CF-18 pilot and squadron commander, is now an F-35 test pilot and says the jet is better than anything he's flown.

and survivability during surface and air engagements," wrote another.

Their comments are contained in a recent assessment prepared by the U.S. Defense Department of the F-35A and the system to train new pilots how to fly it.

The Feb. 15 report, prepared by Michael Gilmore, director of operational test and evaluation, paints a sobering picture of an aircraft that remains far from being combat-ready. Pilots who flew the aircraft last fall faced a litany of "significant" restrictions that barred them from flying at night, in bad weather, in formation with other aircraft, doing aerobatics or testing the jet's combat capabilities.

"As a result of the immaturity of the F-35A, student pilots were limited in flight maneuvering to very basic aircraft handling," the report says.

"The aircraft is still very immature; utility of available training is limited."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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The report notes seven of 10 provinces meet only 50 per cent of their full potential on advertising policy, and suggests a simple solution: Shift the "focus of provincial liquor board websites away from product promotion" and towards a "health-focused" message. RICHARD LAUTENS/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



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Alcohol one of the top health threats to Canadians: Report

A growing problem

Giesbrecht says the lack of attention to the problem of alcohol runs contrary to statistics: Alcohol accounted for eight per cent of all deaths (under 70 years old) and seven per cent of all hospital stays in 2002, and between 1996 and 2010, total consumption increased by 13 per cent.

It's a sobering nationwide report with a stark conclusion: Alcohol is one of the greatest public-health threats in Canada. And the provinces are not doing enough to curb its deadly potential.

The report, Strategies to Reduce Alcohol-Related Harms and Costs in Canada: A Comparison of Provincial Policies, was published Wednesday by the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health.

Lead author Norman Giesbrecht, a senior scientist at CAMH, said it is mind-boggling how lax harm-reduction policies are across the country.

Giesbrecht's report, which notes 80 per cent of Canadians

drink, ranks provinces on 10 key harm-reduction policies, including pricing, availability, marketing, legal drinking age and warning labels.

Ontario came first, Quebec ranked last, and Giesbrecht was disappointed with each province's score — Ontario's first-place ranking only reached 56 per cent of a perfect score.

"There's lots of room for improvement," he said. "Alcohol does not get a lot of attention in regards to prevention."

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Syrian rebels seize UN peacekeepers

Golan Heights. United Nations troops accused of aiding Assad regime

Armed fighters linked to the Syrian opposition detained 21 UN peacekeepers from the Philippines Wednesday in the increasingly volatile zone separating Israeli and Syrian troops on the Golan Heights, a new escalation in the spillover of Syria's civil war.

The UN Security Council demanded their immediate and unconditional release.

In Manila, Philippine military spokesman Col. Arnulfo Marcelo Burgos said that Syrian rebels were holding 21 Filipino peacekeepers "as guests."

"They were in a military convoy doing their run. They were suddenly held at one Syrian rebel outpost. They were allowed to go through the first outpost but were stopped at the second outpost," Burgos said.

Israel on edge

Israeli officials have grown increasingly jittery as the Syrian war moves closer to Israel. There have been several instances in which stray fire has landed in the Israeli-controlled Golan Heights, and Israel is concerned that Syrian weapons could fall into the hands of hostile groups.

The capture comes a week after the announcement that a member of the UNDOF peacekeeping force is missing.

Russia's UN Ambassador Vitaly Churkin, the current Security Council president, said talks are under way between UN officials and the captors.

UN peacekeeping chief Herve Ladsous, who briefed the council behind closed doors, identified the captors as being from a group associated with the Syrian armed opposition, Churkin said.

"There was no fighting, according to his briefing to us," Churkin said. "My understanding is that they took over the trucks in which the UNDOF personnel was moving around."

Churkin said the capture of the peacekeepers "is particularly unacceptable and bizarre" because the UNDOF peacekeepers are unarmed and their mission has nothing to do with Syria's internal conflict.

A video posted online by activists showed a group of armed rebels standing around at least three white UN vehicles with the words UNDOF on them, allegedly in the village of Jamlah.

The video accuses the peacekeepers of assisting the Syrian regime to redeploy in an area near the Golan that the fighters had seized a few days ago.

A man identified as a spokesman for the Martyrs of Yarmouk Brigades announced the group is holding the peacekeepers until Syrian President Bashar Assad's forces withdraw from Jamlah. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**



Cardinal in the thick of it

Canadian Cardinal Marc Ouellet holds on to his umbrella on a rainy, windy day as he walks in St. Peter's Square after attending a cardinals' meeting at the Vatican on Wednesday. Cardinals are meeting to discuss problems within the church and get to know one another. There has been speculation that Ouellet could be elected the next pope, but so far there is no clear front-runner for the pontificate.

ANDREW MEDICHINI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Detention system

UN claims Israeli mistreatment of Palestinian youth

Israel must reform its system of military detention for Palestinian minors, a UN report said Wednesday, saying an in-depth study showed it systematically and gravely violated their rights.

The United Nations Children's Fund report was based on interviews with 400 children and minors arrested, detained and jailed in Israel's military court system as well as meetings with lawyers and Israeli officials.

"Ill treatment of Palestinian children in the Israeli military detention system appears to be widespread," said the report. They urged Israel not to blindfold minors or hold them in solitary confinement, and to allow a lawyer or family member to be present during interrogations.

The Foreign Ministry said Israel would co-operate with the UN.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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Puerto Rico

Woman appeals gay-adoption ruling

A lesbian whose adoption request was recently denied by Puerto Rico's Supreme Court is appealing the ruling.

The woman's partner gave birth to a girl, now 12, through in-vitro fertilization. Attorney Nora Vargas represents the woman and said Wednesday that it is in the child's best interest for

the woman to adopt the girl as the second parent.

The announcement of the appeal comes two weeks after the high court voted 5-4 to uphold a law banning gay couples from adopting children.

It was the first time the court heard a case on same-sex adoptions.

Legislators in the U.S. territory are considering several proposals to extend more rights to gays and lesbians. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Mexico

U.S. tourist killed by tidal wave

Officials said a giant wave struck a pair of U.S. tourists strolling on the beach near the famous stone arch in the Mexican resort of Cabo San Lucas, killing a 65-year-old woman and leaving a 70-year-old man in serious condition.

State police said the two were walking back to their

hotel when they were hit by the wave and dragged out to sea on Tuesday. They were pulled out by navy personnel. The woman was declared dead and the man was in serious condition Wednesday.

Authorities said the woman had a Wisconsin driver's licence and the man had one from Nebraska, but it was unclear where they were currently living or whether next of kin had been notified.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Pop star Carly Rae Jepsen, of Mission, B.C. JOEL RYAN/INVISION/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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We can do better. We deserve better.



Scouts Canada to Jepsen: We share your pro-gay stance

Book her, maybe?

Singer cancelled Boy Scouts of America gig over group's LGBT policy

Scouts Canada

"We accept boys and girls, we accept LGBT members, we accept people of all faiths."

Kaylee Galipeau, national youth commissioner and chair of the national youth network for Scouts Canada.

— fully separate from the BSA — clearly stipulates it "does not discriminate for reasons of gender, culture, religious belief or sexual orientation."

In 2001, the organization's social-justice and diversity policy reaffirmed its stance, noted Kaylee Galipeau, national youth commissioner and chair of the national youth network for Scouts Canada.

"It's really just been an opportunity for us to remind people that ... we're vibrant in Canada, we're growing and we are open to everyone," she said from Valhalla Centre, Alta.

Scouts Canada is preparing to host its jamboree from July 6 to 13 in Sylvan Lake, Alta. Galipeau extended an invitation to both Train and Jepsen to attend.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

In the wake of Carly Rae Jepsen's cancellation of her Boy Scouts of America (BSA) performance due to the group's exclusion of gay people, Scouts Canada is reaffirming its stance on inclusiveness — and says Jepsen is welcome at their jamboree.

The Canadian pop star said on Twitter that "as an artist who believes in equality for all people" she was pulling out of the BSA's jamboree in July. Rock band Train also warned that it won't appear unless the organization stops barring participation by gay scouts or adult leaders.

BSA director of publicity Deron Smith said the organization appreciates "everyone's right to express an opinion."

In May, the Boy Scouts of America's 1,400-member National Council is expected to consider a proposal to allow sponsors of local Scout units to decide for themselves whether to admit gay people.

Meanwhile, Scouts Canada

Engineer testifies on lethal mall collapse

Elliot Lake. Structural engineer taken to task for approving the build

Missing bolts, crooked columns and new-yet-rusty beams marred the construction of a mall in northern Ontario, an inquiry heard Wednesday.

John Kadlec, a structural engineer on the Algo Centre Mall project, testified that the work he saw 30 years ago was un-

precedented in his experience. "I sent letters warning (the owner) about sloppy workmanship," Kadlec said.

The discovery of off-kilter columns prompted an unusual fix in which the building was anchored to a nearby rock face.

Kadlec ultimately signed off on the construction of the mall, which collapsed last summer, killing two women.

The engineer defended his actions, saying he only visited the site three or four times. Based on reports from an in-

Total wreck

"I'd never seen that many deficiencies in my life before."

John Kadlec, a structural engineer on the Algo Centre Mall project

spection company, he said he was satisfied the deficiencies had all been rectified.

Kadlec also testified he was puzzled by the decision to put the parking garage above the

mall, when usual practice was to put it underground.

The roof began leaking immediately. Asked if he ever warned the owner about the corrosive effects of water and salt, Kadlec said he didn't realize the problem was so serious.

Kadlec testified he can now only practise engineering by working with or for another engineer, the result of another ill-fated project in which he was involved: the roof of a mall in Sault Ste. Marie, Ont., collapsed in 2009. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**



The Algo Centre Mall rubble in Elliot Lake, Ont. COLIN PERKEL/THE CANADIAN PRESS

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B.C. ferry sinking

Lost passengers sighted, trial hears

Shortly after news reports aired of two missing passengers from the sunken Queen of the North ferry, others who were on board that night started reporting foggy memories of possibly seeing them alive. The sightings may cast doubt on the criminal negligence trial for the officer at the helm. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Bahamas

6 suspended after deaths in custody

Authorities in the Bahamas are investigating the deaths of two men held in police custody and have suspended six officers, police said Wednesday. Pathologists found that Aaron Rolle died Feb. 9 of blunt force trauma to the chest, while Jamie Smith died from asphyxiation the day before. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Four-year sentence sought for former officer held responsible in deadly mine accident

A military prosecutor is seeking a four-year prison sentence for a former warrant officer who led a deadly training exercise in Afghanistan.

Maj. Tony Tamburro told a sentencing hearing Wednesday that Paul Ravensdale failed to protect soldiers while testing C-19 anti-personnel mines on a weapons range near Kandahar city three years ago. "(The soldiers) had the

right to assume their superiors would take care of them. Tragically, as we now know, they were in harm's way," Tamburro said.

Ravensdale, now retired, was convicted last month by a court martial of four charges including breach of duty causing death, which carries a maximum penalty of life in prison.

He was leading a test of

the mines on Feb. 12, 2010 when one misfired, sending hundreds of steel ball bearings backward instead of forward. The projectiles killed Cpl. Josh Baker and injured four others.

Ravensdale was convicted for ignoring safety rules that require soldiers to be at least 100 metres behind a C-19 mine unless they are shielded in a dugout, a vehicle or by some other barrier.

The defence is expected to make its sentencing recommendation Thursday and might ask for no jail time.

Ravensdale's psychologist testified for the defence Wednesday and said any incarceration could hurt Ravensdale's recovery from depression and post-traumatic stress disorder. He is on medication and is cared for by specialists in Winnipeg. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

G20 summit fallout

It's not over yet.

Charges loom for Americans taken into custody during one of the largest mass arrests in Canadian history

An American man facing charges in Toronto over the G20 summit in June 2010 will be allowed to return to the United States until his trial.

Richard Dean Morano's lawyer said Wednesday the 22-year-old is being freed on \$80,000 bail and will stay with relatives in his home state of Pennsylvania.

Morano, of Lackawaxen, Penn., was one of two Americans extradited from the U.S. Tuesday on charges stemming from the riots that occurred two years ago during the meeting of world leaders.

Kevin Chianella, 20, from Queens, N.Y., also appeared in court but his case was put over to Thursday because he had no surety, police said.

Both men face numerous

Shock and awe?

- Chaos.** Dozens of protesters (many wearing disguises) went on a rampage through downtown Toronto during the international summit.
- Aftermath.** Most were released without charges but more than 40 people have been successfully prosecuted.

charges, including mischief endangering life.

Police allege Morano smashed a police car's window with a rock while an officer was inside and used a piece of lumber to break the window of a clothing store.

Morano is also accused, with others, of smashing windows at two coffee shops, a branch of the CIBC and a leather store.

Among other things, it's alleged Chianella used a bag of rocks to smash the windows of a police car while an officer was trapped inside, threatened a To-

ronto Star photographer trying to take pictures of his actions, smashed a large window and damaged an ATM.

A third American appeared in court last week to face four charges in connection with incidents at the G20 after consenting to extradition from Boston.

Quinn McCormic, 25, is accused of throwing objects at the windows of a clothing store, bank and the Toronto Police Museum, with total damage estimated at more than \$125,000.

McCormic is charged with three counts of mischief over \$5,000 and disguise with intent.

Two other Americans also accused in the G20 violence are in custody south of the border.

Toronto police Det. Gary Giroux said Joel Bitar, of New York City, is to appear at an extradition hearing there later this month. He faces 26 charges including mischief over \$5,000 and assaulting a police officer.

Dane Rossman, of Tucson, Ariz., is being held in that state pending extradition, Giroux said.

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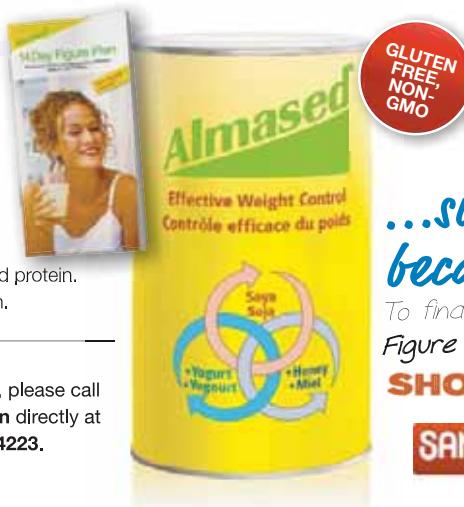
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My Bikini Plan

First 3 Days

Breakfast: 8 tablespoons of Almased (50g) in low-fat milk with 2 teaspoons of oil (flaxseed, walnut or olive).

Lunch: 1 bowl of vegetable broth

Dinner: 8 tablespoons of Almased (50g) in unsweetened almond milk with 2 teaspoons of oil (flaxseed, walnut or olive) and 1 teaspoon of cinnamon

Day 4 Through 14

Breakfast: 8 tablespoons of Almased (50g) in low-fat milk with 2 teaspoons of oil (flaxseed, walnut or olive), 1 teaspoon cinnamon or unsweetened cocoa powder, if desired

Lunch: Vegetables and salad with lean meat or fish (see recipe ideas online)

Dinner: 8 tablespoons of Almased (50g) in water with 2 teaspoons of oil (flaxseed, walnut or olive), 1 teaspoon cinnamon or unsweetened cocoa powder, if desired

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Kids's programming

Amazon orders pilot for math-focused mystery

Amazon is continuing its push into producing original children's series, ordering its sixth pilot of shows aimed at kids.

The online retailer announced that it will make a test pilot for *Sara Solves It*, an animated math-focused

mystery developed by WGBH and Out of the Blue Enterprises. The show is the sixth pilot geared for kids by Amazon Studios, the retailer's original movie and series production arm.

Launched in 2010, Amazon Studios is moving toward presenting its pilots on its Prime Instant Video service. Amazon says it will choose which series to greenlight for a full season based on viewer reaction.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Annual reports

Want to know how Swatch did? Better know some Swiss German

How to show your attachment to your small Alpine country when you're a globally known watch manufacturer? Try writing your annual financial report in the local dialect impenetrable to outsiders.

Swatch Group AG issued its 216-page report for 2012 in Swiss German — an idiosyncratic form of the language that often baffles other native German speakers.

Chairwoman Nayla Hayek said the language switch was meant as "a positive provocation" and she was confident the Swiss "will respond to this expression of our deep connection to our roots with a wink."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mobile users beware: Web pages now hog 720 KB**Devouring data. HTTP Archive warns the size of an average page has grown 35% in past year**

Think viewing a few websites on a smartphone doesn't use much data? Think again.

The average size of a web page continues to grow unabated, a trend that mobile users in particular should take note of.

According to the website HTTP Archive, which regularly studies the top 10,000 most-visited sites online, the average web page now weighs in at about 1.3 megabytes, up about 35 per cent in the last year.

It's not a big data hit when accessing the web at home but it's a different story for users with limited data al-

lowances for their mobile phones.

HTTP Archive suggests the average web page when browsing on a mobile device — accounting for the fact that some websites have mobile-optimized pages and others don't — is about 720 kilobytes.

"That is quite large, that size has really grown a fair bit," says Guy Podjarny, an Ottawa-based web-performance researcher who works for the company Akamai. "Anything that is over the 700 kilobytes or 800 kilobytes range I would mark as too heavy for mobile."

Given that many mobile providers sell plans that start at 150 megabytes a month, basic web browsing — nevermind streaming of audio or video, which quickly gobble through data — could quickly deplete that allotment.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



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A cleanup worker uses a shovel to remove thick oil that washed ashore from the Deepwater Horizon oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico on July 1, 2010, in Gulfport, Miss. GETTY IMAGES FILE

BP trial. Ex-supervisor says he didn't feel pressured to sacrifice safety before spill

A retired BP employee who supervised drilling operations on the rig that exploded in the Gulf of Mexico testified Wednesday that he never felt pressure to sacrifice safety to save money, even though the project was behind schedule and over budget.

"I don't believe in pushing people to keep schedules. I'm just not going to do it, especially if safety is involved," former BP well site leader Ronnie Sepulvado said at a federal trial designed to assign fault for the

deadly disaster to the companies involved in drilling BP PLC's Macondo well.

Sepulvado wasn't on the Deepwater Horizon rig at the time of the April 20, 2010, well blowout. He left four days earlier because his well-control certificate was about to expire.

His replacement, Robert Kalusa, and fellow BP well-site leader Donald Vidrine are charged with manslaughter in the deaths of 11 rig workers and await a separate trial.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Storm slams Mid-Atlantic, D.C. spared

Varying impact across region. Washington shuts down with up to 10 inches of snow forecasted, but ends up receiving far less

After pummelling the mid-section of the U.S. with heavy snow, a late-winter storm made its way Wednesday toward the Mid-Atlantic region, dumping nearly two feet of snow in some places and knocking out power to about 250,000 homes and businesses, but largely sparing the nation's capital.

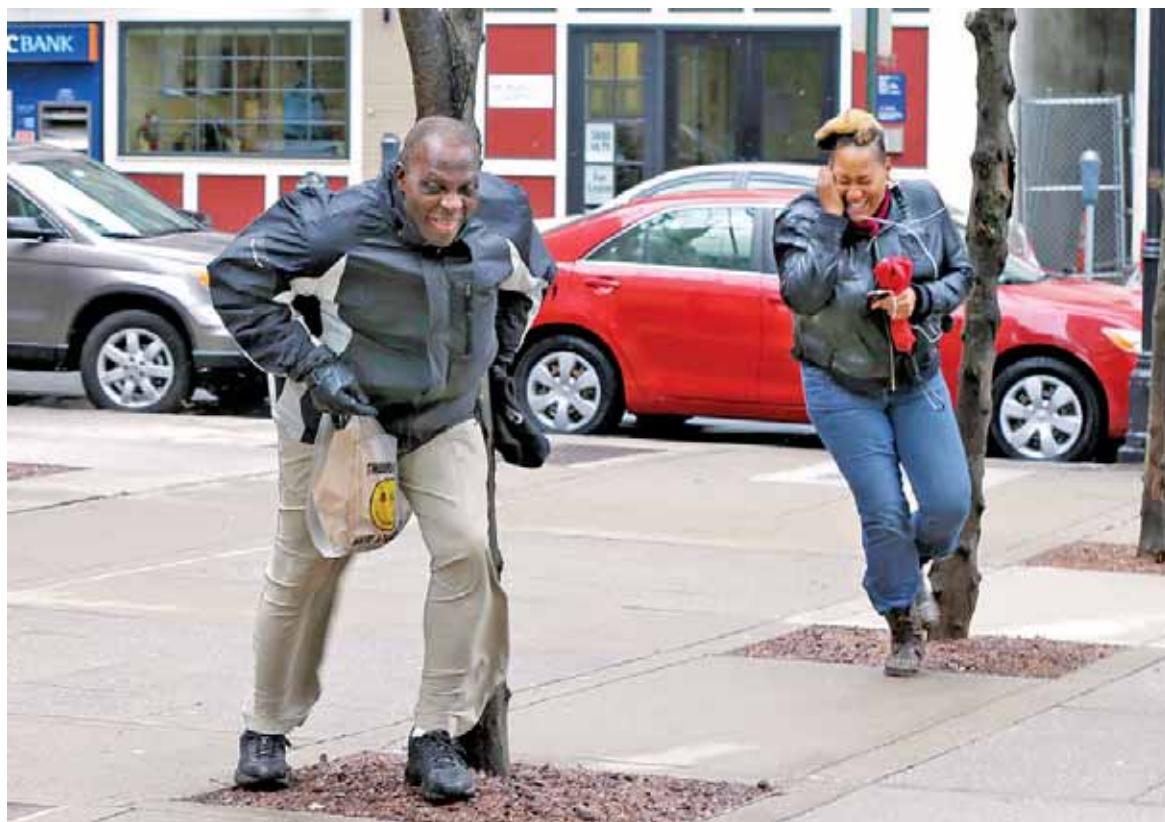
Residents of Washington, D.C., had braced for the possibility of snarled traffic and power outages, and as the storm closed in, the federal government said its offices in

Taking precautions

Airlines along the storm's projected path cut flights, including hundreds Wednesday, most of them at Dulles and Reagan National airports in the Washington area, according to FlightAware.com.

the area would be closed Wednesday.

The storm had brought around 10 inches of snow to weather-hardened Chicago by late Tuesday, when snow was also starting to come down in parts of Virginia. Schools were closed in Minnesota, Wisconsin and Illinois, and more than 1,100 flights were cancelled at Chicago's two major airports, prompting delays and closures at others. METRO/WITH FILES FROM THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



A man braces against a small tree and a woman leans against the wind as it whips between buildings Wednesday in Trenton, N.J. Winds from a winter storm lashed New Jersey and did some damage across the region. MEL EVANS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Policy change irks Arctic. Nunavut faces problems with new SIN-card process

The federal government is scrambling to address recent changes to the way citizens must apply for social insurance numbers that Arctic politicians say would cost northerners thousands of dollars.

"It's a policy change that doesn't reflect the needs of small communities," said Ron Elliott, a Nunavut MLA who represents several High Arctic communities.

In December, the federal government changed the rules so people applying for SIN cards can no longer do so by mail. They now must show up in person at Service Canada offices to get the cards.

Nunavut has only three such offices — in Iqaluit, Rankin Inlet and Cambridge Bay. Nunavut has 28 far-flung communities, none of them connected by road.

"We're now calling it Canada Disservice," said Marty Kuluguqtuq, a resident of Grise Fiord, who figures it would cost him \$6,600 in airfare and require a week-long journey to

Quoted

"We're now calling it Canada Disservice."

Marty Kuluguqtuq

Disgruntled Grise Fiord resident

Iqaluit to register his six-year-old daughter.

"We'd rather have her on the system sooner than later."

He's probably not the only one. Kuluguqtuq, the hamlet's assistant administrator, says more than half of Grise Fiord's population of 140 is under 18.

Elliott wonders why the mail is no longer good enough. He points out that passports are still issued that way and Canadians living outside Canada can apply for SIN cards through the post.

The reality of the policy change that they made was that it's actually more inconvenient for someone within Canada to travel from their home community to a Service Canada outlet," Elliott said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Miracle pooch

Animal-shelter volunteer Josee Messier comforts Orville the Australian shepherd in Cowansville, Que., in a handout photo from the SPA des Cantons Facebook page. Police are investigating the case of that dog, which somehow survived being shot in the head and left in a ditch.

SPA DES CANTONS/HANDOUT/THE CANADIAN PRESS/

Long Island, N.Y.

Laughable charge?

A Long Island man says he didn't know it was a crime to laugh.

Robert Schiavelli of Rockville Centre was slapped with two summonses for "disturbing the peace."

Police responded to his home on Feb. 12 and Feb. 13 after receiving complaints from his next-door-neighbour that his loud laughs could be heard across the driveway.

The 42-year-old was charged with acting "in such a manner as to annoy, disturb, interfere with, obstruct, or be offensive to others."

At his arraignment Tuesday, a judge declined to dismiss the charges.

Schiavelli told the New York Post his neighbour often taunts him due to his disability. He learned to deal with it by laughing him off. Schiavelli suffers from seizures and neurological impairments. The neighbour didn't respond to requests for comment.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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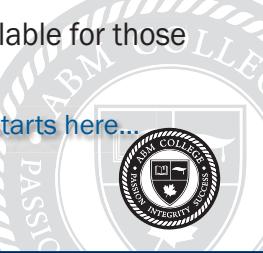
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Egyptian tycoon, crony of Mubarak's son gets 37 years

Associates. Ahmed Ezz, who was arrested days after Hosni Mubarak's regime fell, was a close associate of the autocrat's son, Gamal

An Egyptian court on Wednesday convicted a Hosni Mubarak-era steel magnate of profiteering and squandering public funds, and handed him a 37-year prison sentence and a \$296-million US fine — the heaviest

penalty yet against a former regime official since the longtime autocrat's fall two years ago.

Ahmed Ezz, who is already serving a combined 17 years in prison from convictions of graft and money laundering, is one of the highest-profile ex-regime insiders to face corruption charges since the popular uprising that ousted Mubarak in February 2011.

A court in Cairo's sister city of Giza found Ezz guilty Wednesday of making illicit gains of \$740 million over a decade in a number of il-

legal business deals involving a steel firm in which he became the largest shareholder, and a smaller private firm belonging to Ezz.

It ruled that Ezz was aided between 1999 and 2001 by a former industry minister, Ibrahim Mohammadein, who was given a one-year prison term with a suspended sentence and fined nearly \$100 million.

Another former head of an industry chamber was handed a 17-year prison sentence for aiding Ezz in squandering public funds.

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Venezuela's oil industry may face more turmoil after leader's death

Following Tuesday's death of Hugo Chavez, Venezuela faces near-term political uncertainty that could bring further turmoil to its oil industry.

The country's oil exports fell by nearly half during Chavez's 14 years as president and that kind of decline is not easily reversed. It will take years of investment to turn around the country's beleaguered oil sector.

But whoever emerges as

the next leader of Venezuela, an OPEC member that sits on the world's second-largest oil reserves, will have a powerful economic incentive to make that a top priority.

Exports fell from three million barrels per day in 2000 to 1.7 million barrels per day in 2011. Chavez relied heavily on the country's oil income to fund social programs, but reinvested relatively little of it to exploit new oil fields and replace de-

pleted ones.

There has been no indication from the country's national oil company, Petroleos de Venezuela, S.A., or PDVSA, whether it will invite more foreign investment or increase its own investment in new production.

But Chavez held such sway over the company's direction that his death means the direction could change dramatically.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Rival automakers

Toyota taps GM exec to join board

Toyota has tapped a former executive at U.S. rival General Motors to join its board, the first time in the Japanese automaker's 76-year history it is appointing directors from outside the company. The appointment underlines efforts at Toyota Motor Corp. to become more internationally minded.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Online banking

Hackers target Czech banks

Hackers are targeting major commercial banks in the Czech Republic, bringing down their website and affecting their online banking. The websites of the country's central bank and the Prague's Stock Exchange were also not accessible Wednesday morning.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Wealth declarations

Crackdown targets former Greek cabinet ministers

Three Greek former cabinet ministers have been charged with alleged breaches of wealth-declaration laws, amid a crackdown on former public officials by judicial authorities in the recession-mired country.

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metro

Goodbye, swirly B: Bay gets rebranded

Modern makeover.

Retailer will now be called Hudson's Bay and use updated logo

The Bay is going back to its roots under a plan to rebrand its operations with a different name and new logo. The department store retailer says it will now be called Hudson's Bay, a nod to its parent company.

A refreshed logo uses the company's name in a simple type face. The full version resurrects its corporate coat of arms, which features a shield and cross, as well as beavers, a fox and two elk.

A spokeswoman for the company says the rest of the rebranding effort will roll out over time. The new logo already has been incorporated



HUDSON'S BAY LA BAIE D'HUDSON

Top, the groovy, decades-old Bay logo recognizable to all Canadians is being replaced by the more modern and streamlined version shown underneath. The retailer will now be known as Hudson's Bay instead of The Bay. HBC

into the company's loyalty program, which will now be called Hudson's Bay Rewards.

The retailer called the reworking of its brand "a marriage between yesterday's his-

tory and tomorrow's vision."

Plans are to gradually take down The Bay signs at its retail locations, though it doesn't have a timeline for the changes. The parent company will main-

tain its logo of a flag with the letters "HBC" — for Hudson's Bay Company.

Hudson's Bay says this is its first major logo change since 1965. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Policy intentions. BoC signals low interest rates will be around a while

Quoted

"I think the bank made it just a little more explicit that they see rates going nowhere any time soon. I think this pretty well locks in the view that there won't be any rate hikes in 2013."

Doug Porter, chief economist with BMO Capital Markets

a "constructive evolution" in household finances.

"With continued slack in the Canadian economy, the muted outlook for inflation, and the more constructive evolution of imbalances in the household sector, the considerable monetary policy stimulus currently in place will likely remain appropriate for a period of time," the bank said.

Some economists had been expecting the bank to drop its bias towards a tighter monetary policy altogether, but the statement did not go as far.

In the past, outgoing bank governor Mark Carney — who leaves his post in June — said he was worried that low rates were luring Canadians into taking on debt they could not afford to service once interest rates rose. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Market Minute



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Natural gas: \$3.48 (-5¢)
Dow Jones: 14,296.24 (+42.47)

Landmark penalty

EU fines Microsoft for breaking pledge

The European Union has fined Microsoft about \$750 million for breaking a pledge to offer personal computer users a choice of Internet browsers when they install the company's flagship Windows operating system.

The penalty imposed by the EU's executive arm, the Commission, is a first for Brussels: no company has ever failed to keep its end of a bargain with EU authorities before.

The Commission's top competition regulator, Joaquin Almunia, said on Wednesday that the fine reflected the size of the violation and the length of time it went on for. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

World markets

Dow's record high boosts confidence

The Dow's new all-time high and better economic data from the U.S. propelled world markets Wednesday, with European stocks hitting a four-year high.

Investors are cheered by major central banks' commitments to keep supporting growth in the world's biggest economies — the U.S., China, the 17-country eurozone, Japan and Britain.

That has helped them look past political trouble in Washington, where automatic government budget cuts took effect last week. The cuts are expected to hurt U.S. economic growth. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

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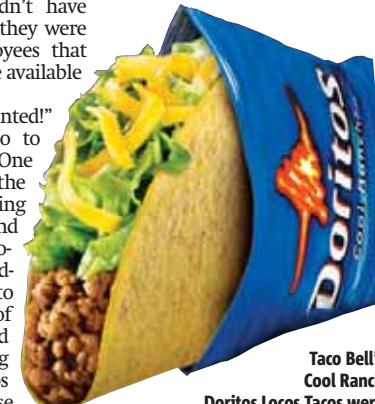
Shell shock. Taco Bell fans hot over Cool Ranch delay

Some Taco Bell fans in the U.S. are angry after they couldn't get their hands on the chain's new tacos made with Cool Ranch Doritos shells a day early.

The fast-food chain had announced this week that it would release its highly anticipated Cool Ranch Doritos Locos Tacos in the U.S. on Wednesday, a day earlier than planned.

But then some fans began posting on the chain's Facebook page complaining their local restaurants didn't have them yet. They said they were told by local employees that the tacos wouldn't be available until Thursday.

"VERY disappointed!" one fan wrote. "Boo to you," wrote another. One fan posted a letter to the chain online, detailing how he and a friend made a trip to their local Taco Bell after midnight Wednesday to get their first taste of the new tacos. He said they ended up getting the regular Doritos Locos Tacos because they were "basically committed anyway."



Taco Bell's Cool Ranch
Doritos Locos Tacos were supposed to launch Wednesday in the U.S. **TACOBELL.COM/SCREEN GRAB**

WHOOPS! I'M ONLY SORT OF SORRY

I'm sorry I've never said sorry.

"Sorry" has always seemed to be the hardest word, but in 2013 I've seen the error in my thinking. Between bracelet aficionado Lance Armstrong, football coach Rob Ford and anti-shirt activist Justin Bieber, I see now that sorry is the quickest, easiest path to redemption.

Whether you say sorry on Twitter, to Oprah or at a staged media event, you can take your dirty laundry and stuff it in the hamper of history, even if it never actually comes clean.

You'll notice I never said that these men apologized. I only noted that they said the word "sorry." There's a difference.

As I understand it, perhaps naively, an apology involves admitting you were wrong, offering no excuses, and owning your mistake.

Cyclist Armstrong appeared with Oprah and said sorry for using performance-enhancing drugs but also said he never considered it cheating. Oprah, a.k.a. Pope No. 3, still offered absolution and said Armstrong could be a hero again."



HE SAYS
John Mazerolle
metronews.ca

Toronto Mayor Rob Ford, when it looked like he might lose his job, said he was sorry "to everyone who believes I should have done this differently." That's sincere in its half-heartedness, at least, though it's hard to fit on a Hallmark card.

And singer Bieber had to apologize for taking the stage at a London concert at 10:30 p.m., which is past his fan base's bedtime. It's a minor transgression, to be sure, but the fact he tweeted that "there is no excuse for that" while blaming "technical issues" in the same bird-breath has me assuming he's begun the inevitable downward spiral of a teenage pop star and in eight years will look just like Keith Richards.

Seeing that I can say sorry for my misdeeds without the pain of any emotional heavy-lifting has inspired me to step up. I'm going to follow the example set by these wise men, and soon I'll be sorry too.

Here goes.

I'd like to say sorry to my mother for stealing her Chatelaines and Redbooks when I was 11 years old so that I

might peruse them for lingerie ads and illustrated guides to breastfeeding. I'd also like to say sorry to the teenage boys who found my magazine stash in the woods and, after an initial flush of excitement, loomed gravely over the pages, looking sad and whispering aloud, "Why would anyone DO this?"

With your permission, ladies and gents, I'd like to be a hero again.

Furthermore, I'd like to say sorry for the times that I have dropped a half-full cup of coffee into a mall garbage can because I'd been too lazy to find a sink. I apologize sincerely to anyone who thinks I possibly could have done this differently, though I frankly don't see how.

I also apologize for when I do it in the future.

Finally, I'm sorry that I have coveted my neighbour's ox. Like, a lot. There's no excuse for that, but I've had some technical difficulties.

Pew! Wow, that really works. I feel better!

Maybe you need to say sorry too? Perhaps you have a hard time apologizing?

Well, I challenge you to step forward and see how it feels to sort of, kind of, in a way apologize. After all, you're better safe than sorry.

No, wait.

Clickbait

Reddit is the reigning champ of the Internet's thriving time-sink industry, providing daily bumper crops of cat pics and Good Guy Greg memes. This week, there's the irresistible Absurd Business Insider Headline Hall of Fame.



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3. You Are Directly Related To This Rat

4. Horses Cure Internet Porn Addiction In South Korea

5. Science Explains Why It Hurts So Much To Get Hit In The Balls



Letters
RE: Thanks for the Mammaries, published March 5

I think it's really important that the issues raised by Jessica Napier be widely read and I can't think of a better place than a free, widely available and distributed community newspaper like Metro. I hope Jessica's frank and direct writing allows others to see how insane and damaging it is to focus so much attention on mere body parts.
Jesse Kelly, London, Ont.

Twitter

@metropicks asked: What makes a "real hipster"?

@theunshakable1: Hipster: someone who spends more money on one outfit than I do on my entire wardrobe just to appear homeless without a care.

Follow @metropicks and take part in our daily poll.

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ZOOM

Look, ma: I'm upside down



Canopy reflects wharf's heritage

The crowds appear to walk upside down but on closer inspection this surreal sight is of a giant mirrored canopy.

Recently unveiled in Marseille, France, the Vieux Port pavilion — constructed by architectural firm Foster + Partners — is made of a highly polished stainless-steel covering designed to reflect the city's UNESCO

World Heritage-listed harbour.

"At last in Marseille, when you are with your children, you can take in the city's hustle and bustle — without the shopping," Gaëlle, a Marseillaise who came with her two daughters, told the newspaper Le Monde.

The cost of the project, which took one year to construct, amounted to \$60.3 million, sources say.
METRO WORLD NEWS

Mirror image

"It's quite literally a reflection of its surroundings — its lightweight steel structure is a minimal intervention and appears as a simple silver line on the horizon."

Spencer de Grey, head of design, Foster + Partners

See for yourself

"Our approach has been to work with the climate, to create shade, but at the same time to respect the space of the harbour — just making it better."

Lord Norman Foster, British architect and head of architectural firm Foster + Partners

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Family is ‘nuclear centre’ of hit TV series Homeland: Patinkin

Watch it from the beginning.

Season 1 is now airing Wednesday nights on Bravo in Canada

Actor Mandy Patinkin did heaps of research for his role as a senior CIA agent in the hit TV series *Homeland*, about a released POW Marine who returns home to his family amid suspicions he's been “turned” by al-Qaeda.

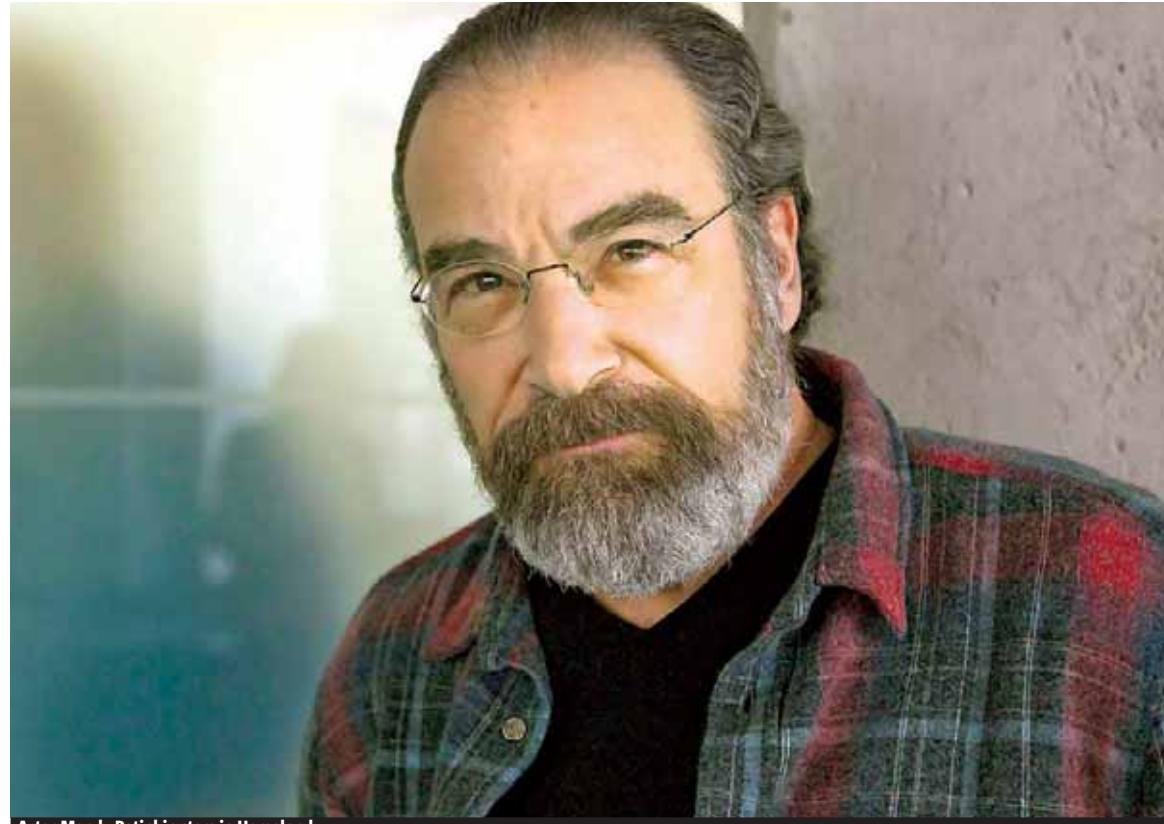
But it wasn't until he met with an actual CIA veteran and his daughters and talked to them about growing up under the cloak of spy operations in the Middle East that he fully understood the kernel of the show.

“The minute he mentioned his daughters, I just realized, instantly — after all the books I read about CIA and spies and intrigue — it was a story about a father and a daughter, it was a story about a family. And that's the nuclear centre, why it's so popular all over the world, in my opinion,” Patinkin said.

Homeland's second season recently aired on Showtime in the U.S. In Canada, it's currently showing on Super Channel, which plans to debut season three with the U.S. premiere on Sept. 29.

Meanwhile, season one premiered Wednesday on Bravo in Canada.

Patinkin plays Saul



Actor Mandy Patinkin stars in *Homeland*. CHRIS YOUNG/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Baking with the CIA

“It asks some pretty profound questions and it puts them in a cupcake of heavy-duty psychological thriller stuff.”

Actor Mandy Patinkin, on *Homeland*

Berenson, the CIA's Middle East Division Chief emeritus and mentor to Carrie

Mathison (Golden Globe winner Claire Danes), an agent that has bipolar

disorder who sometimes breaks the rules and uses a sixth sense to capture her targets in a post-9/11 world.

Carrie was first to get the tip that Sgt. Nicholas Brody (Golden Globe winner Damian Lewis) may have been “turned,” and she goes to desperate lengths to learn the truth.

24 writers Howard Gordon and Alex Gansa de-

veloped the gripping series that features many plot twists and has viewers constantly questioning who is a double agent.

“One of the things I love about *Homeland* is it asks you to listen to your enemy,” said Patinkin, who also got a Golden Globe nomination for his role on the show.

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2
SCENE

Untogether. Blue Hawaii gets cool with brooding full-length album

Blue Hawaii's debut EP Blooming Summer, released three years ago, was frozen in a state of sun-kissed bliss, reflecting both a recent trip to Central American paradise undertaken by Montreal duo Alex Cowan and Raphaelle Standell-Preston, as well as the amorous afterglow that coloured their relationship afterward.

Their brooding debut full-length, Untogether, is an entirely different experience, belonging squarely to the bleakness of a cold Montreal winter.

Where their 2010 introduction was a snapshot of a couple still with tropical sand between their toes, the ethereal Untogether is about separation; from each other (necessitated by Standell-Preston's touring duties with Braids) and from the fertile, close-knit Montreal scene that has both emboldened and challenged the duo.

"It's a big departure," Cowan agrees over the line from Montreal. "We were feeling very broken about our cultural scene and towards each other and towards a lot of things. It got dark and sad quite quickly."

It got noticed just as swiftly.

Where Blooming Summer was released quietly to positive, if scarce, critical notice, the electronic duo has cultivated a much higher profile in advance of the release of Untogether this week, with validating praise flowing in from such influential sources as Pitchfork and Fader. For Cowan and Standell-Preston (known as Agor and Raph, respectively), these critical plaudits arrive after more than a half-year of sitting on the completed album.

Assembling the record wasn't exactly easy, either. It was a draining six-month process during which Cowan and Standell-Preston hardly



Blue Hawaii. HANDOUT

A darker love story

"It's still a love project, but it's definitely gotten more mental"

Alex Cowan on how Blue Hawaii's work has changed over the years

ever worked together directly. Though they were living in the same house, neither was home much. So routinely, one half of the duo would spend a night burrowing into a Blue Hawaii tune and then the other would examine and build on that work later, alone. The solitary nature of that process resulted in an album about distance and alienation, with uncommon musical and lyrical symmetry.

Of course, Blue Hawaii has already changed quite a bit in the years since their debut. Back then, they occasionally referred to the airy album as a "love project."

Cowan says the term still applies, in a way. "(This) is definitely not as rose-coloured, that's for sure," he said. "I'd say it's moved—it's still a love project, but it's definitely gotten more mental."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Spinning a web to catch a few dragons

Big break.

Hit-making producer stumbled across Imagine Dragons while searching for sounds for the Spider-Man Broadway musical

When he first started working with Imagine Dragons, music producer Alex da Kid was looking for some inspiration for the Broadway musical, Spider-Man: Turn Off the Dark.

"I thought they would be great to help me come up with ideas for U2," the Grammy-nominated English producer said.

There was just one problem: The demos they recorded were too good.

So instead of using the alternative band to collaborate on the score by Bono and The Edge, Alex da Kid — the creator of Eminem and Rihanna's colossal hit Love the Way You Lie — immediately signed the Las Vegas-based foursome to his label imprint KIDinaKORNER Records, distributed through Interscope Records.

Imagine Dragons released its debut album, Night Visions, in September and so far has reached gold status, selling more than 600,000 units, according to Nielsen SoundScan. The band currently has two songs in the Top 25 with It's Time and Radioactive and they are on a sold-out U.S. tour that wraps June 3 in Phoenix.

Imagine Dragons had been building a buzz on the music scene as an independent act



Imagine Dragons' album Night Visions, which debuted last September, has hit gold status. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Identity crisis

"We didn't feel like we were ready as a band. We didn't understand our sound enough."

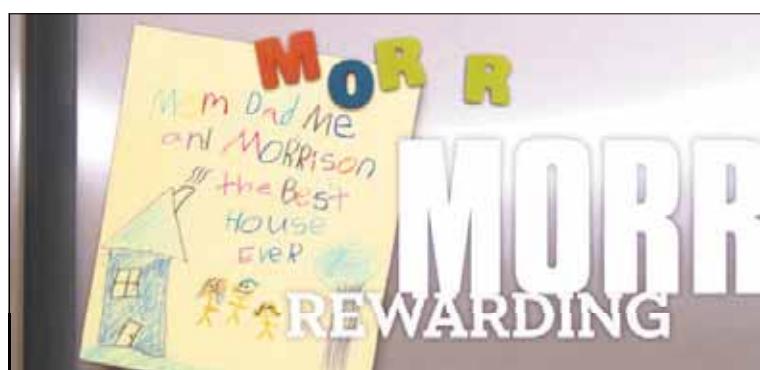
Imagine Dragons frontman Dan Reynolds on producer Alex da Kid helping his band

left and dropped everything and came to Vegas."

Meeting Alex da Kid, born Alexander Grant, changed his perception about staying independent. He says the producer filled a void in the band's sound.

"We didn't feel like we were ready as a band. We didn't understand our sound enough and our theme and who we are, and we didn't want to try to tell people that story (if) we didn't understand ourselves," Reynolds said. "(Alex) was the perfect match for what we had been trying to do for three years."

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Rick Roberts and Sook-Yin Lee play Jack Layton and Olivia Chow in the CBC-TV movie about the late NDP leader's life that traces his career from Toronto municipal politics to his eventual leadership of Canada's official Opposition party. HANDOUT

They know Jack — actors grilled Chow on late husband

Piecing together a life. Stars of CBC-TV movie relied on details from his wife to colour their performances

Olivia Chow says she was determined to ensure that the upcoming CBC-TV movie about late New Democratic Party leader Jack Layton offered a complete picture of her husband.

That meant succumbing to intense "grilling" by stars Rick Roberts, who plays Layton, and Sook-Yin Lee, who plays Chow — as well as executive producer Laszlo Barna, a giant in the field whose past projects have profiled Celine Dion, Shania Twain and Romeo Dallaire.

Still, there was one thing Layton's widow refused to reveal — the cancer that killed

him. Chow has never identified what exactly led to Layton's death in August 2011, and although Barna pressed her to reveal it now, she refused.

"Cancer is vicious and we decided — I decided and Jack decided — not to talk about the one that actually killed him," Chow said in a recent interview to promote the film. "We talked about prostate cancer but prostate cancer is infinitely curable. And a lot of men have prostate cancer. We don't want to inflict despair into people that have a serious cancer disease that can take you in a few weeks."

The film Jack kicks off in early 2011, about a year after Layton revealed he was diagnosed with prostate cancer.

Boasting that his health has rebounded, he embarks on a federal election campaign to lead the New Democrats to unprecedented wins, achieving

official Opposition party status for the first time in the party's 50-year history in May 2011. He died just months later at age 61.

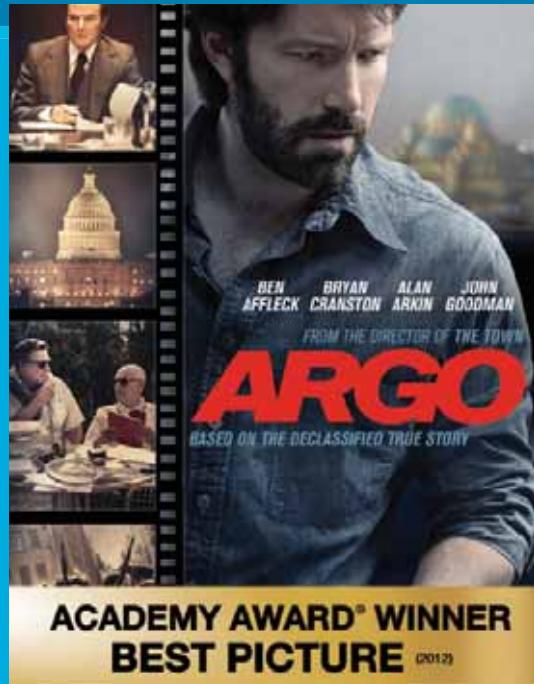
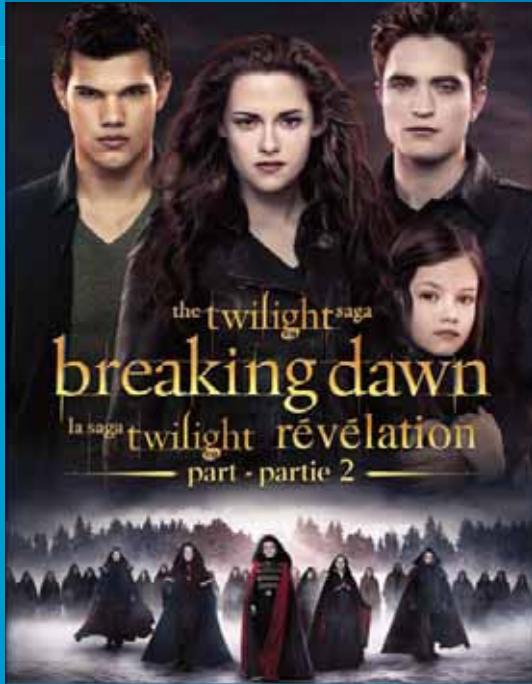
Through flashbacks, the film traces Layton's rocky journey from Toronto municipal politics to the national stage, as well as his love affair with Chow.

"The harder part for me was piecing together (Olivia Chow's) personality," said Lee, host of CBC Radio's weekly show *Definitely Not the Opera*.

"She's a woman of few words — very few words — and even with this litany of questions that we assailed her with she would answer in a very brief (way). And I kept sending more and more questions to her and they were equally as brief. So I just had to sort of lean on my investigative ability as a journalist."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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James Franco thinks it would be awesome if a high-profile Hollywood actor would just come out of the closet already. ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Gay rumours partly me: Franco

James Franco is willing to admit he's at least partially responsible for any speculation about whether he's gay or straight. "One of the things that's very much part of my public image is the question of my sexuality," he tells *Attitude* magazine. "It's not something that bothers me

in the slightest. ... It's partly my doing and partly not my doing." But what he's really interested in is a high-profile actor coming out of the closet. "If there's somebody that was well-respected and very secure with their career, I could see it happening in a very positive way."



Which circle of hell will Tina Fey end up in for her Golden Globes jab, Taylor Swift wonders.



Taylor Swift can't take a joke

Taylor Swift is making some powerful enemies. She responded to Amy Poehler and Tina Fey's joke at her expense at January's Golden Globes ceremony. "You know, Katie Couric is one of my favourite people," Swift tells *Vanity Fair*. "She said to me she had heard a quote that she loved that said, 'There's a special place in hell for women who

don't help other women.'" While Fey expressed surprise at Swift's annoyance, Poehler has a response of her own: "Aw, I feel bad if she was upset," Poehler tells *The Hollywood Reporter*. "I am a feminist and she is a young and talented girl. That being said, I do agree I am going to hell. But for other reasons. Mostly boring tax stuff."

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METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word



Jones was wasted when she made out with Miley's fiancé: Source



THE WORD

Dorothy Robinson
[scene@metronews.ca](#)

Rumours have been swirling around Miley Cyrus' fiancé Liam Hemsworth and Mad Men star January Jones getting "hot and heavy" at a pre-Oscar party at the Chateau Marmont in February and now *Life & Style* has additional dirt on the illicit hook-up.

"They went to a private house party, and right in the

middle of the party, January was clinging to Liam, saying, 'You're so handsome,'" a guest reveals in the new issue of *Life & Style*. "He kept saying, 'We can't do this here.' Then they left holding hands and went out in the hallway and were making out. She was wasted. It wasn't good."

For their part, the magazine has pictures of the two stars riding in a car together on the night in question. "When it comes to men, January just goes for it," another source tells the magazine. "She doesn't seem to care if they're with someone or not. It's like a challenge for her, a game."

As challenges go, drunkenly making out with Liam Hemsworth seems like an easy one. What about climbing Mount Kilimanjaro? Or staying off of Facebook for an entire week? Those are actual challenges, January.



Bizarre accusations: One of Gaga's fans claims Madonna encouraged gay men to have unprotected sex during the height of the AIDS crisis.

Little monster alleges Madonna helped spread AIDS

Lady Gaga's fans are continuing the singer's feud with Madonna whether she wants them to or not, this time even accusing the Material Girl singer of helping the spread of AIDS. In a post on the *Gaga* fan blog Little Monster Artpop, a *Gaga* fan criticizes the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) for picking Madonna to present an award to Anderson Cooper at



@justinbieber
Lovin London. #goodtimes

their awards ceremony next week. "Back in the 1980s, she encouraged gay men to have unprotected sex," read the post, which was removed shortly after garnering media attention. "While she certainly didn't start the disease, she and her lack of morals helped it spread." The post's author vowed to "strike back" in an unspecified manner if GLAAD did not choose another presenter.



@solangeknowles
My son will be up wanting breakfast in 2 hours.
What am I doing with myself?



@EmWatson
Look.I just want to know exactly what the next ten years of my life is going to look like ok? And to have it organised on a colour coordinated calendar. Is that really too much to ask?

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Landing smoothly and stylishly on the runway

Run Tilda, run.

Model Tilda Lindstrom reveals her beauty tricks for fighting sugar cravings, skin breakouts and bloat

RICHARD PECKETT
life@metronews.ca

It's fashion month and the going is tough for the world's most sought-after models. How do you keep yourself feeling healthy and looking hot during this exciting but exhausting time?

"I drink a lot of green juices. I like anything with spinach, kale, celery, ginger and lemon. I can't handle too much dairy during the shows because I'm lactose intolerant. It makes me feel bloated and it's bad for my skin."

"I love Lindt Sea Salt chocolate, but I had to give it up. Sweet food gives me a massive sugar rush, which is inevitably followed by a crash."

"So during the shows, I'll snack on macadamia or brazil nuts and green apples if I need an energy boost."

1 run = 1 cheeseburger

"I do so much walking during casting season that I don't have time to workout. If I have time I go for a run, but that doesn't happen very often — maybe once every two months. And then I indulge in a cheeseburger."

Staying clear of rashes and breakouts



In 2012, this Swedish beauty walked more spring runways than any other model – 68 in total. HANDOUT

"I clean my face after every single show. I bring my own Chanel eye makeup remover because I'm sensitive to the MAC one that they use backstage."

"It gives me rashes and a red face! And there's not much you can do about a blemish but cover it up with concealer and drink as much water as

possible to clear your skin out."

NYC to London to Milan to Paris

"I get really puffy when I fly. But drinking coconut water and taking vitamin C seems to help. I also use a cooling eye mask the morning of a show if my face is still a bit swollen."

Tilda's top 5 fashion week essentials

Rosebud Perfume Co. Smith's Rosebud Salve



"I love this!"
sephora.com

MAC Studio Finish SPF 35 Concealer



"I don't really wear makeup. This is basically all I use."
maccosmetics.com

Dermalogica: clearing skin wash and active moist moisturizer



"I have very sensitive skin and Dermalogica works really well for me."
dermalogica.com

YSL Rouge Pur Couture the Mats in Rouge Rock



"If I'm going out, I keep my makeup simple. I don't wear any eyeshadow, just a dark red YSL lipstick."
yslbeautyus.com

Chanel: Démaquillant Yeux Intense, gentle bi-phase eye makeup remover

"I take my makeup off after each show."
chanel.com

The Kit

Canadian street style

Spotted in: Toronto

Madison
Actress
Age: 24



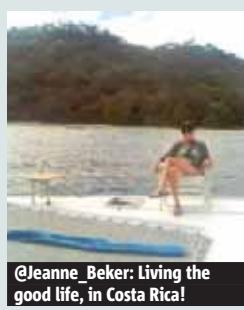
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What she's wearing
Vintage hat, Karen Walker sunglasses, Armani vintage jacket, vintage shirt, Roots sweater, Alexander Wang bag, Wilfred pants and Miista



@Jeanne_Beker: From where I LIE... Cruising the Pacific on a Sunday afternoon!



@Jeanne_Beker: Living the good life, in Costa Rica!

3
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Venus Williams sports a Blue Slice Tank from the EleVen By Venus Williams Summer 2013 collection, available April 15 at select retailers and boutique tennis shops. ELEVEN BY VENUS WILLIAMS / THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Venus is serving up a style all her own

EleVen-love.

Tennis pro making a racket in the fashion world with her court-ready clothing line

You know the whole thing about a woman's prerogative to change her mind? Venus Williams can't do it — at least not when it comes to her tennis wardrobe.

She already knows that come August at the U.S. Open, she'll be wearing a black floral tennis dress, and for tournaments earlier in the summer, it'll be pink python prints.

Williams wears almost exclusively her own line called EleVen, which she has helmed since 2007. Both looks are part of the fall collection, which Williams offered a preview of on Monday at a Manhattan photo studio. The spring collection that goes into stores later this month has some tie-dye prints,

What's she up to now?

Last week, Venus was in South America playing in the Brazil Cup.

- Williams maintains a full schedule of tennis tournaments and appearances, although she did announce that she was diagnosed in 2011 with an autoimmune disease that slows her down.

nautical stripes and a more painterly watercolor floral.

"When we are designing, I am narrowing down which ones I'm wearing. I have got to plan ahead. ... The retailers want to know right away which ones I'll be wearing," she says. This decisiveness works for her and her busy life, she adds. "I have to be effective with my time."

Eventually, she'd like to take all of her tennis outfits — in-

cluding the "grandma floral" skirt her mother made her for her first pro match when she was only 13 years old — and join them with the on-court wardrobe of her sister Serena for some sort of museum exhibit.

Williams, 32, says she absorbs trend reports and keeps her eye on the runways for ideas, but some things just don't translate to athletic clothes: the Victorian boudoir trend, for example. "Yeah, that one, with all the lace, didn't work for sport, and I'm not sure about menswear, either."

Designing EleVen has also made her more aware of what's in her closet, including a lot of white, black, green and floral prints. She steers pretty clear of purple and magenta, and it took her a while to warm up to red, orange and turquoise, but, Williams says, her collection can't be only her favorite colors and styles. "I'm loosening up," she said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Seasonal designer deals

Throughout the year sales are almost guaranteed when clearing out old stock and bringing in new items. But knowing exactly when old stock is being discounted is the key to saving money on large ticket items. Everyone knows the best time to buy a winter coat is at the end of winter, and buying a snowmobile in the middle of summer can get you the best deal. But what about those home-related items we all need? Here's a list of some big savings you should expect over the next month or two.



Chinaware and flatware

Spring is when new tabletop designs are introduced (just in time for June weddings). Older china and flatware patterns go on sale to make room for the new stuff. **Tip:** If you have a great collection already, look for pieces to complete your set on sale. If investing in new tableware, keep the colours neutral so that the look stays current for a long time.

Perfume

The two biggest times for perfume sales is Valentine's Day and Mother's Day, so those in-between months is when perfume companies love to have promotions. **Tip:** Perfume keeps for a very long time. Consider buying as Christmas gifts.



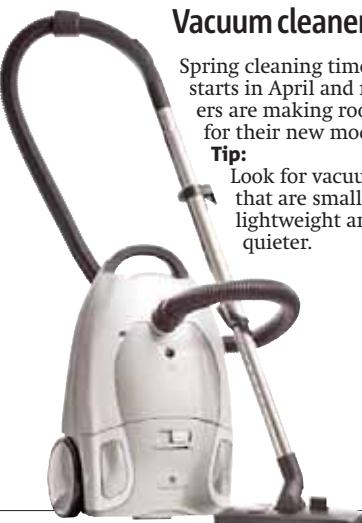
Luggage

Many travel throughout the summer and just before that time is when new luggage styles are introduced. Look to the early spring for retailers clearing out old styles. **Tip:** The full set deals are the most economical. Shop with a friend and split up the set.

Vacuum cleaners

Spring cleaning time starts in April and retailers are making room for their new models.

Tip:
Look for vacuums that are smaller, lightweight and quieter.



Televisions

The biggest time for television sales is the fall and early winter. After Christmas there isn't much promise for selling televisions as we start thinking about spring/summer activities, so retailers are trying to get rid of the 2012/early 2013 models. **Tip:** Buy your television ahead of a family room renovation and keep it boxed until the reno is finished.

Cookware

Not a lot of pot/pan sales happen until fall, when retailers often have great incentives to purchase full sets. **Tip:** Fall is a great time to purchase some as a wedding gift or for a second set for a cottage and buying a full 10-piece boxed set will usually offer up the best value overall.



DESIGN
CENTRE
Karl Lohnes
home@metronews.ca

Houses & condos

April is when most homes get listed for sale. That means the best selection and often the best competitive prices you will see. If you wait until the summer months you will find either the less desirable homes that haven't sold yet or a very limited choice on the market. **Tip:** Don't under estimate the potential of a less expensive place and adding some custom upgrades yourself. You'll then have exactly what you wanted without spending any more money.

"Off-season" shopping

1 Do your research. When it comes to technology, things move quickly. Find out what features will be new in 2013 and see if any of them may have been introduced on last year's models.

2 Buy in full sets. Whether it be buying luggage, china, bedding or cookware, purchasing the entire set will generally reap larger savings overall.

3 Keep things neutral. A simpler colour will tend to last a lot longer than last year's trendiest colour.

4 Purchase perfume for a friend's future birthday gift, tableware as a wedding gift or a television prior to your renovation will allow you to save money on something you inevitably would be buying anyway.

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Host Jeremy Sham of the new series *Made in Milwaukee*. HANDOUT

Creative concepts help add comfort and function to your home

DIY ideas. Bringing in your own artistic flair may be just what your family room needs

Creating a space you want to live in doesn't have to be boring. Get inspired by new series *Made in Milwaukee*, where Jeremy Sham and his team don't just renovate rooms but create original works of art.

It can be tough to get design inspiration for a family room because they tend to always be messy — full of clutter and people. However, that doesn't have to be the

case with these fun ideas:

Organization

Create stations within the room to keep mess and clutter in one spot for easy clean-up, while keeping an area sectioned off for the adults. Add a large television shelving unit to put your movies and collections on display.

You can get creative with your shelving options — such as re-using hardwood flooring for durable shelves, or plexiglass shelving where items will appear as if they're floating.

Walls

Breathe life into your family room with paint.

Opt for an ombré wall getting lighter with the colour as the paint gets closer to the ceiling, which creates the illusion of high ceilings.

Painting one wall in the room a bright color or applying a dramatic wall paper design can add an artsy element to the room. Magnetic paint is a kid friendly and fun option. Simply paint over the current wall color and let dry, then stick and unstick to your heart's content.

Another unique idea to consider for your children's entertainment is a chalkboard wall or chalkboard table top. Chalk board paint is easily accessible and has the same

application process as regular paint.

Décor

3D wall art is a popular trend with endless options such as stickers, plastic flowers and butterflies, and even dinosaur heads.

Arrange the 3D butterflies and flowers in an eye-engaging design and you will feel as if you're at an art gallery.

Next time you're considering renovating your dingy family room, think originality not ordinary. Both you and your family will thank you for it.

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Number sequence turns up in plant, art world

Math. What do pine cones and paintings have in common?

Better known by his pen name, Fibonacci, 13th century Italian mathematician Leonardo of Pisa came up with a number sequence that keeps popping up throughout the plant kingdom — and the art world too.

A Fibonacci sequence is simple enough to generate: Starting with the number one, you merely add the previous two numbers in the sequence to generate the next one. So the sequence, early on, is 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 21 and so on.

Numbers and plants

To see how it works in nature, go outside and find an intact pine cone (or any

other cone). Look carefully and you'll notice that the bracts that make up the cone are arranged in a spiral. Actually two spirals, running in opposite directions, with one rising steeply and the other gradually from the cone's base to its tip.

Count the number of spirals in each direction — a job made easier by dabbing the bracts along one line of each spiral with a coloured marker. The number of spirals in either direction is a Fibonacci number. I just counted five parallel spirals going in one direction and eight parallel spirals going in the opposite direction on a Norway spruce cone.

Or you might examine a pineapple. Focus on one of the hexagonal scales near the fruit's midriff and you can pick out three spirals, each aligned to a different pair of opposing sides of the hexagon.

One set rises gradually, another moderately and the third steeply. Count the number of spirals and you'll find eight gradual, 13 moderate and 21 steeply rising ones. Fibonacci numbers again.

Scales and bracts are modified leaves, and the spiral arrangements in pine cones and pineapples reflect the spiral growth habit of stems. To confirm this, bring in a leafless stem from some tree or shrub and look at its buds, where leaves were attached.

The buds range up the stem in a spiral pattern, which kept each leaf out of the shadow of leaves just above it. The amount of spiralling varies from plant to plant, with new leaves developing in some fraction — such as 2/5, 3/5, 3/8 or 8/13 — of a spiral. Eureka, the numbers in those fractions are Fibonacci numbers!

Numbers and art

I haven't forgotten about the artists. It turns out there are certain proportions we humans generally find pleasing: the rectangular proportions of a painting, for example, or the placement of a focal point in a painting.

In a painting, the golden ratio states that the ratio of the distance of the focal point from the closer side to the farther side of a painting is the same as the ratio of the distance from the farther side to the painting's whole width.

A pleasing ratio, it turns out, is 0.618 ... or, if you want to use the inverse, 1.618. Enter Fibonacci: Divide any Fibonacci number by the Fibonacci number before or after it and you get 0.618 or 1.618, not exactly at first, but closer and closer the higher the Fibonacci number you start with. Try it.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



A spruce cone with a marked Fibonacci number sequence. A numbers sequence thought up by the 13th century Italian mathematician known as Fibonacci plays out in nature, from pine cones to pineapples.

LEE REICH/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Steady diet of Downton Abbey

Cookbook cooking.

Latest season of the show recently wrapped so to hold you over, try this inspired recipe

A roast chicken can be elegant to serve. This is a great recipe for beginners as it uses lemons to help keep the chicken moist

and flavourful, Pamela Foster writes in her book *Abbey Cooks Entertain*.

Inspired by the fine cuisine served at the fictional Downton Abbey and other grand English country houses at the turn of the 20th century, this book combines food, history and healthy eating.

Included are 220 recipes and colour photos that provide suggestions for entertaining at

brunch, afternoon tea, cocktails and dinner.

In addition, there is a selection of recipes to host a traditional garden party, and to celebrate English holidays throughout the year.

Just try not to knock the chicken on the floor as Mrs. Patmore famously did in Season 1 of Downton Abbey, but if you do, just dust it off and carry on.

1. Clean and prepare root veg. Roughly chop into large chunks. Place in a roasting pan with a grill rack. Pour a little olive oil over vegetables, add garlic and toss in fresh herbs.

2. Remove any giblets from chicken cavity and wipe down chicken with paper towels. Rub with oil, salt and pepper. You can also rub it with other dried herbs (rosemary, thyme)



This recipe serves three. THE CANADIAN PRESS/HO

3. Gently separate breast skin from meat on each side with your finger. Insert lemon slices and fresh herbs which will help flavour the bird. Lemon does a great job of moisturizing the chicken from the inside out. Depending on the size of the chicken, either cut the second lemon in half, or prick lemon all over and stuff it into the cavity. Tuck wings under the back, but there's no need to truss it (tie the legs together). Place, uncovered, in a 190 C (375 F) oven.

4. As a general rule, calculate a cooking time of 20 minutes per 500 g (1 lb) of meat. The temperature of the chicken

needs to reach 74 to 77 C (165 to 170 F) when a meat thermometer is placed in the thickest part of the meat, avoiding any bones. If you don't have a thermometer, the juices should run clear when you poke into the thigh.

5. When chicken is cooked, let it rest for 20 minutes to let juices settle into meat. If you cut it too soon, you will see all the flavour on your cutting board. Remove from roasting pan, cover with tinfoil and get your table setting ready. Carve chicken and serve with roasted vegetables. THE CANADIAN PRESS/ABBEY COOKS ENTERTAIN BY PAMELA FOSTER (PAMELA POWERED INC., 2012)

Cook live with Vikram Vij

Last-minute grocery list



Winning chef in Vancouver and Metro want to help you find time for family meals. Our mission starts in the form of Canada's first live online cooking show to air today at 6 p.m. ET at metronews.ca/vijcooklive.

If you still haven't downloaded the grocery list, we've got you covered.

Vij Family's Chicken Curry

- 1/2 cup canola oil
- 2 cups finely chopped onions (2 large)
- 3-inch stick of cinnamon
- 3 tbsp finely chopped garlic
- 2 tbsp chopped ginger
- 2 cups chopped tomatoes (2 large)
- 1 tbsp salt
- 1/2 tsp ground black pepper
- 1 tsp turmeric
- 1 tbsp ground cumin
- 1 tbsp ground coriander
- 1 tbsp garam masala
- 1/2 tsp ground cayenne pepper
- 3 lbs chicken thighs, bone

in

- 1 cup sour cream, stirred
- 2 cups water
- 1/2 cup chopped cilantro (including stems)

Cumin Basmati Rice

- 2 cups basmati rice
- 3 cups cold water
- 1/4 cup canola oil
- 1 tbsp cumin seeds
- 1 cup finely chopped onions (1 medium-large)
- 3 3/4 cups water for cooking

• Have a question? They can be tweeted live during the show using the hashtag #vijcooklive.

• Online. Remember to visit metronews.ca/vijcooklive today at 6 p.m. ET for Canada's first live online cooking show.



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MMA

Shields picked to fight The Chosen One at UFC 161

Former Strikeforce champion Jake Shields will face highly rated welterweight Tyron "The Chosen One" Woodley at UFC 161 in Winnipeg on June 16.

Heavyweight Pat "HD" Barry, meanwhile, will take on former LSU full-back Shawn "The Savage" Jordan. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

MLB spring training

Hunter homers as Tigers top Jays

Torii Hunter hit his first home run with the Detroit Tigers, Justin Verlander allowed one hit in four innings and the Detroit Tigers beat the Toronto Blue Jays 4-1 on Wednesday.

Brandon Morrow started for Toronto and allowed one unearned run in two innings while striking out three. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

MLB

Teixeira latest injured Yankee

Mark Teixeira is going to be out until at least early May with a strained right-wrist tendon, the latest major injury setback for the New York Yankees.

Teixeira was hurt swinging a bat on Tuesday in an indoor cage during pre-game warm-ups with the U.S. WBC team. Yankees doctors in New York on Wednesday predicted he will miss eight to 10 weeks. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**



San Jose Sharks goalie Thomas Greiss gets caught inside the net as teammate Douglas Murray, left, and Calgary Flame Jiri Hudler dig for the puck at the Scotiabank Saddledome on Wednesday. **JEFF MCINTOSH/THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Kipper back to spark Flames over Sharks

NHL. Veteran goalie stops 32 of 33 shots after missing 13 games with a sprained knee

Miikka Kiprusoff made 32 saves in his return from a knee injury to lead the Calgary Flames in a 4-1 victory over the San Jose Sharks on Wednesday night.

Blake Comeau scored a tie-breaking goal early in the third period while Jarome Iginla, Roman Cervenka and Curtis Glencross, into an empty net,

Wednesday night

4	1
Flames	Sharks

also scored for surging Calgary (9-8-4), which improved to 4-1 in its last six games.

Joe Thornton scored the lone goal for the Sharks (11-7-4), who are 2-6-1 in their last nine.

Kiprusoff returned to the

lineup after missing 13 games with a sprained knee. The 36-year-old was injured in the second period of Calgary's 4-1 victory over the Red Wings on Feb. 5. Calgary went 6-5-2 during his absence.

Kiprusoff was busiest in the third as the Sharks had the period's only two power plays and outshot Calgary 17-6, but couldn't solve the Finn, whose NHL career began as a Shark 12 years ago Tuesday when he was first recalled from the minors.

Calgary took a 2-1 lead at 2:57 of the third when Comeau burst down the right wing and snapped a shot inside the far

goalpost, beyond San Jose goaltender Thomas Greiss.

It was Comeau's first goal this season and just his second in the last 41 games, dating back to last season.

Less than two minutes later, Iginla kept up his red-hot scoring with his sixth goal in the last five games, ripping a shot past Greiss from the slot after being set up by Jiri Hudler.

The Flames now depart on a difficult California road trip. They play once in Anaheim, then two straight in Los Angeles against the defending Stanley Cup champion Kings.

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~~WAS: \$17,065~~ **\$15,918*** **\$97** B/W¹

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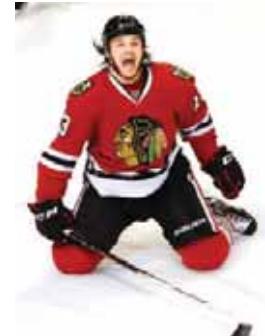


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Thursday, March 7, 2013

Carcillo heroic in Blackhawks' latest victory

NHL. Late goal vs.
Avalanche extends
Chicago's point-getting
streak to 24 games



Daniel Carcillo celebrates
Wednesday night's game-winning
goal in Chicago. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Chicago Blackhawks were tired, hurting and often on their heels Wednesday night against Colorado.

But despite skating without three key forwards, playing their second game in two nights and falling behind after two periods, they pulled out yet another win.

Daniel Carcillo scored the tiebreaking goal with 49.3 seconds left and the Blackhawks won their 11th consecutive game, beating the Avalanche 3-2 on Wednesday night

to extend the best start in NHL history.

"Being down, resiliency,

perseverance, whatever you want to call it, there's a belief in this locker-room that whatever position we're in, we can come back," Carcillo said. "That's one of our biggest assets."

Jonathan Toews and Andrew Shaw also scored for Chicago (21-0-3), which reached the halfway point of a lockout-shortened season without losing in regulation. The remarkable Blackhawks have earned at least one point in their first 24 games, an NHL record.

Dating back to last year's regular season, the streak is 30 games.

The Blackhawks broke the previous team record for consecutive wins with their 10th in a row Tuesday night, 5-3 over Minnesota.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
Miami	45	14	.763	—
New York	37	21	.638	7½
Indiana	38	23	.623	8
Brooklyn	35	26	.574	11
Atlanta	34	26	.567	11½
Chicago	34	27	.557	12
Boston	33	27	.550	12½
Milwaukee	30	28	.517	14½
Toronto	24	38	.387	22½
Philadelphia	23	37	.383	22
Detroit	23	40	.365	24
Cleveland	21	40	.344	25
Washington	19	40	.322	26
Orlando	17	45	.274	29½
Charlotte	13	48	.213	33

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Pittsburgh	23	15	8	0	81	67	30
New Jersey	23	10	8	5	56	65	25
NY Rangers	21	11	8	2	55	53	24
Philadelphia	24	11	12	1	68	72	23
NY Islanders	23	10	11	2	70	78	22

NORTHEAST DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Montreal	23	14	5	4	71	59	32
Boston	20	14	3	3	60	46	31
Toronto	24	15	9	0	73	61	30
Ottawa	24	12	8	4	56	49	28
Buffalo	24	9	13	2	63	77	20

SOUTHEAST DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Carolina	22	13	8	1	67	62	27
Winnipeg	22	10	11	1	56	68	21
Tampa Bay	23	10	12	1	81	73	21
Washington	21	9	11	1	59	62	19
Florida	23	7	11	5	59	83	19

Note: A team winning in overtime or shootout is credited with two points and a victory in the W column; the team losing in overtime or shootout receives one point which is registered in the OL (other loss) column.

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Chicago	24	21	1	0	3	78	46
Detroit	23	11	8	4	63	60	26
St. Louis	22	11	9	2	64	67	24
Nashville	23	9	9	5	47	59	23
Columbus	23	7	12	4	53	69	18

NORTHWEST DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Vancouver	22	11	6	5	63	61	27
Minnesota	22	11	9	2	52	56	24
Calgary	21	9	8	4	61	69	22
Edmonton	22	8	9	5	54	62	21
Colorado	22	8	10	4	53	65	20

PACIFIC DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Anaheim	21	15	3	3	75	60	33
Los Angeles	21	12	7	2	60	52	26
San Jose	22	11	7	4	51	50	26
Phoenix	22	11	8	3	67	63	25
Dallas	22	11	9	2	61	63	24

Note: A team winning in overtime or shootout is credited with two points and a victory in the W column; the team losing in overtime or shootout receives one point which is registered in the OL (other loss) column.

SCORING LEADERS

	G	A	Pt
Crosby, Phg	11	25	36
Stamkos, TBL	17	17	34
Saint Louis, TBL	6	24	30
Vanek, Buf	12	16	28
Staal, Car	12	16	28
Kunitz, Phg	12	16	28
Tavares, NYI	14	13	27
Carolina 4 Buffalo 3	12	15	27
Carolina 4 Buffalo 3	10	17	27
Tampa Bay 5 New Jersey 2	11	14	25
Washington 4 Boston 3 (OT)	8	17	25
Los Angeles 6 St. Louis 4	8	17	25
Chicago 5 Minnesota 3	8	17	25
Detroit 2 Colorado 1	6	19	25
Brooklyn 99 Charlotte 78	9	14	23
Atlanta 107 Philadelphia 96	8	15	23
Miami 97 Orlando 96	7	16	23
Cleveland 104 Utah 101	6	17	23
Boston 83 Indiana 81	6	17	23
New York 87 Detroit 77	5	18	23
Minnesota 87 Washington 82	5	18	23
L.A. Lakers 108 New Orleans 102	5	18	23
Memphis 91 Portland 85	5	18	23
Dallas 112 Houston 108	5	18	23
Toronto 98 Phoenix 71	5	18	23
San Antonio 101 Chicago 83	5	18	23
Sacramento at Golden State	4	18	22
Milwaukee at L.A. Clippers	4	18	22
L.A. Clippers at Denver	10:30 p.m.		
Thursday's games — All times Eastern			
Buffalo at New Jersey, 7 p.m.			
Montreal at Carolina, 7 p.m.			
Vancouver at Columbus, 7 p.m.			
Pittsburgh at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.			
NY Rangers at NY Islanders, 7 p.m.			
Toronto at Boston, 7 p.m.			
Florida at Washington, 7 p.m.			
Edmonton at Detroit, 7:30 p.m.			
Winnipeg at Tampa Bay, 7:30 p.m.			
St. Louis at Phoenix, 9 p.m.			
Dallas at Los Angeles, 10:30 p.m.			
Wednesday's games not included			

Horoscopes

Aries

March 21 - April 20

Don't worry too much if your thoughts take you in directions you would not want to admit to in public. Think before you turn thoughts into deeds though.

Taurus

April 21 - May 21

Someone you meet today will instantly attract you. It could be the start of a life-long friendship or even a passionate romantic liaison. Either way it's going to be a lot of fun — and that's good.

Gemini

May 22 - June 21

You may be tempted to tell the world your plans but with Mercury, your ruler, still moving retrograde that might not be such a good idea. Only let those you really trust know what you are up to.

Cancer

June 22 - July 23

You will see some strange things today but don't take any of it seriously. Maintain a detached attitude, even though there may be times when you want to bang a few heads together.

Leo

July 24 - Aug. 23

There is no telling what spur-of-the-moment decisions you will make over the next 24 hours, but you will certainly do something out of the ordinary. Try though to look ahead and see what the consequences might be.

Virgo

Aug. 24 - Sept. 23

You could easily impose your will on other people today but is that such a good idea? A little bit of thought should help you see that if you come on too strong you'll lose.

Libra

Sept. 24 - Oct. 23

Do you let your heart rule your head today? It might be a smart idea as with mind planet Mercury still moving retrograde your thoughts may be all over the place. What does your inner voice tell you?

Scorpio

Oct. 24 - Nov. 22

There is no point trying to coerce people whose worldview is completely different to your own. All that does is make them oppose you even more. Accept that you see things differently.

Gemini

May 22 - June 21

There is a danger that you will bounce back and forth between two extremes today. It may not bother you much but it could turn important people against you, so think before you act.

Capricorn

Dec. 22 - Jan. 20

Even if you disagree strongly with what loved ones are up to right now, you are advised to gloss over the fact and stay on good terms. It gives you a bargaining chip for later.

Aquarius

Jan. 21 - Feb. 19

Feelings will be running high today and you may wish you could switch off the world. So why don't you? While everyone else is busy arguing you can sneak off.

Pisces

Feb. 20 - March 20

A relationship may be going through a tough time but don't give up on it. Love planet Venus in your sign links to both Saturn and Pluto today, which means you are nowhere near the end of the road yet. **SALLY BROMPTON**

Crossword: Canada Across and Down

Across

- Eddie Cochran's "____ Everybody"
- Fuel additives at Indy
- Gore and Biden, e.g.
- Two notes to follow Do
- Road type
- Town ___ (News-giver of yore)
- ___ instant (Quickly): 2 wds.
- Toward shelter (Sailing term)
- Moms of cousins
- "Break It to Them Gently" singer/songwriter: 2 wds.
- Hosp. readouts
- Mr. Garfunkel
- Purple dinosaur
- Vancouver-born actor Ryan
- "She's ___" by Tom Jones
- Shoe parts
- Cool, retro-style
- Intl. alliance created in 1949
- "You've Got Mail" recipient
- Ceremonial staff
- Nice summer?
- Gwyneth's "Shakespeare in Love" (1998) role
- Stone worker
- Sittings
- Actor Mr. Depardieu
- 'Mich' add-on (Mr. Douglas)
- Very: French
- "The Safety Dance" group: 3 wds.

Down

- Potato pancake
- 1994 Pulp album: ___ 'Hers'
- Actress Jessica
- "Drive ___" by The Beatles: 2 wds.
- Don't give ___ (Care less)
- TV producer Norman

- Refusals
- Telegram
- Ms. Flynn Boyle

Down

- House, hip-style
- Restaurant dish lister
- Actor Mr. Epps
- Big name in video

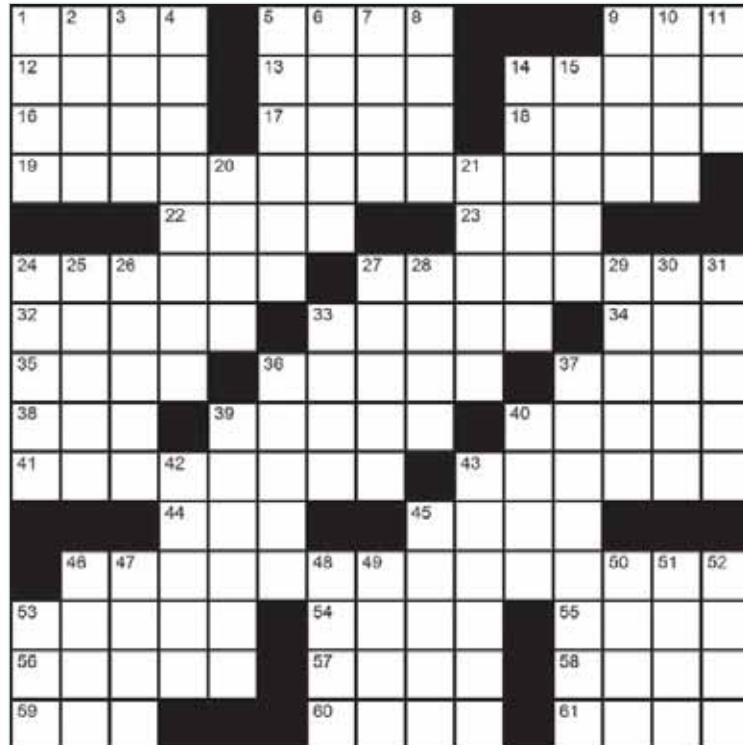
games
5. Like 'groovy' for 'great'
6. Powders
7. Tire: French
8. Appear
9. Actor Mr. Rhames
10. Dogs and cats
11. Lon Chaney and Douglas Fairbanks, e.g., to



See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

their sons
14. Terrier dogs from Scotland
15. ___ You" by Bryan Adams
20. ___-dokey
21. Singer/guitarist John
24. Scourges
25. Having wings
26. Appraises
27. Breadbasket items
28. Zeno of ___ (Ancient Greek philosopher)
29. ___ Apso (Dog from Tibet)
30. Designer's talent
31. Fork out
33. Shortly
36. Garlic sauce
37. Amanda ___ ("Let It Rain" singer from Toronto)
39. TV show fan
40. ___ the Parents" (2000)
42. Coffee brand
43. '90s music genre
45. ___ with Love" (1967)
46. Deli dressing
47. And so on, plurally [abbr.]
48. Get out the freeze
49. ___- ___ (Sound system)
50. Epithet for Athena
51. Skier's up-the-slopes ride
52. Ms. Gilbert
53. K-O link



Yesterday's Crossword



Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

Yesterday's Sudoku

1	8	7	2	3	5	4	6	9
9	2	3	1	4	6	5	8	7
5	6	4	8	7	9	3	1	2
2	7	8	5	1	4	6	9	3
3	9	1	6	8	7	2	4	5
6	4	5	9	2	3	1	7	8
4	5	2	7	6	8	9	3	1
7	3	9	4	5	1	8	2	6
8	1	6	3	9	2	7	5	4

4	8		9	1
7	2		5	4
5	3		6	5
4				3
3	2		7	1
9	5		7	3
5	3		4	6
4				3
3	2		7	1
9	5		7	3
8	2		2	6
7	4		2	6

Weather

TODAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY



MAX: -7°
MIN: -9°



MAX: -2°
MIN: -11°

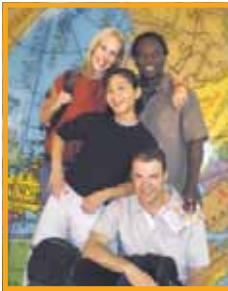


MAX: 11°
MIN: -2°



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